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THE RUSSIAN FIRES.

FOR a good mystery, impossible to solve (and which our contemporaries in recent articles on the subject have not in the least explained), we know of none just now at all comparable to the St. Petersburg fires. To be sure, we have not yet heard how many houses have been burned down, and, in the absence of any formal inquest, our curiosity on this point

is not likely to be satisfied. The number of fires is always considerable in Russia at this period of the year, especially in the bazaars, where the shops are for the most part built of wood. Old, dry wood, heated by such a sun as scorches St. Petersburg in the month of June, will take fire, whether or not the political atmosphere be ardent. Just three years ago, all Moscow was terrified by a series of conflagrations

which usually began in the middle of the day. It was said that some composition, inflammable by heat, was rubbed on the doors and woodwork of the houses at night, and that it ignited under the rays of the noonday sun. It was even asserted that boys had been caught with this fire-paste about them and in the very act of applying it. But, of course, there was no public trial of any of the persons



VIEW OF ST. CLARE, ISLE OF WIGHT, THE TEMPORARY RESIDENCE OF THEIR ROYAL HIGHNESSES PRINCE AND PRINCESS LOUIS OF HESSE.

arrested. In time, when the vigilance of the police had been fully aroused, the fires ceased and people in Moscow ceased to speak of them—which, as it was evidently impossible to learn anything about them, was perhaps the best plan. The general opinion on the subject, however, was that they were the work of incendiaries intent on plunder, and many robberies were committed while houses were in flames, and while clothes, furniture, and household property of all kinds were lying unprotected in the street below. So great is the dread of fire in a Russian town, especially if any of the houses in the street where it is raging are built of wood, that, at what we should consider a considerable distance from the scene of the catastrophe, persons may be seen hurrying from their homes with their fur cloaks, and carrying their household deities in the shape of consecrated pictures, and whatever other valuables they may set particular store upon. Accordingly, one house on fire may be the cause of a dozen families bringing out all the most precious and portable portions of their property into the street. This is a chance of which the rascals who have laid the trap, and who are of course on the spot, cannot fail to profit. A clever thief who does not choose to resort to violent means may, under the pretence of assisting a poor, timid woman, contrive to carry off a fur worth from twenty to a hundred pounds. When a bazaar, that is to say a collection of shops and stereooms, catches fire, the opportunities for robbery must be immense; and we observe that it is at the bazaars of St. Petersburg that the most extensive of the recent conflagrations have taken place.

A political origin is assigned to those fires by the Russian Government, which now, for the first time, admits the existence of "a democratic party," and charges that party with having instigated incendiaryism. Such an accusation seems to us to require something more than ordinary proof. Any one can understand the serf setting fire to his master's barns; here is an injury given—in a summary and savage manner, but the only manner possible—for an injury received. The "democrat," however, burning down the shops and houses of tradesmen and private individuals, in order to drive the Emperor from the Winter Palace, is a phenomenon that passes comprehension, and which, in the absence of direct and valid testimony, we cannot in any shape accept. We fully admit, judging from the "proclamations" and secret journals which they have issued, that the democrats of St. Petersburg have been guilty of moral incendiaryism, and if they had been accused of laying the torch to one or all of the Imperial palaces we should at least be able to see some sort of connection between their words and the deeds placed to their account. But as it is, the mere statement of the St. Petersburg Government is worth nothing. It tells us that the "democrats" have endeavoured to burn St. Petersburg down; but it spread a report once before that the St. Petersburg students had risen against the Emperor because they were opposed to the emancipation of the serfs; and the procession of a peaceable body of Moscow students to the house of the Governor-General of the city was represented to the gendarmerie, the soldiers, and the populace, as an insurrection of Poles. Again, when the nobility of Moscow held their assembly last June, the Government journals announced that the questions addressed to them by the Minister of the Interior had been answered in the most satisfactory manner, and that they had merely petitioned for a few administrative reforms—the fact being that they had expressed the greatest discontent and had demanded a Constitution.

One of the very few writers in England who turn their attention to Russian affairs has attempted in the *Saturday Review* to explain the St. Petersburg fires on the hypothesis (put forward by the Government as a demonstrable theory) that they are political manifestations. He half believes that incendiaryism may have been taught as a doctrine in the Sunday schools, and would account for such strange ethical teaching by the unsettled notions as to the nature and inviolability of property consequent on the emancipation of the serfs and the apportionment of land to the liberated peasants. But a similar emancipation and apportionment of land took place in the Prussian and Austrian dominions without any such chaotic confusion of *meum* and *tuum* being produced by it. Indeed, more tenderness has been shown for real or supposed territorial rights in Russia than in any country in Europe in which the serfs have been emancipated during the present century. The Government started by admitting the abstract legality of the existing state of things, and spoke only of modifying it from motives of expediency and from a benevolent intention to "ameliorate the condition of the peasants." It is easier and more rational to believe that the Government circulates false reports calculated to bring discredit upon the whole of the reform party, than that gentlemen of education and of honourable position, such as the volunteer teachers in the Sunday schools for the most part were, could inculcate the wild, wicked, and moreover suicidal, doctrines imputed to them by the official journals. The St. Petersburg fires remain unexplained; but it is at least premature to accept the explanation of them which is given by the Russian Government. In England we should make a point of catching the incendiaries; but the Russian police are too much occupied with politics to be able to prevent or punish crime.

THE EX-KING OF NAPLES.—The *Press* of Vienna states that Prince Petruia, the Envoy of Francis II., has definitely given in his resignation. The Prince had long since requested to be removed, and lately urged his application more strongly. In reply he received a telegram from Rome announcing that an indeterminate leave of absence, and not his retirement, was accorded. The King added that when the Prince's health should be re-established his diplomatic services would again be called for. As this reply did not at all suit the Prince's resolution, he sent a telegram to Rome, respectfully insisting on his former request to resign, and the resignation was at last accepted. "These facts may be considered," says the above-named journal, "as showing that the cause of Francis II. is regarded, even by his most devoted partisans, as lost."

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

The Emperor and the Empress of the French have quitted Fontainebleau on a tour through the departments of the Nièvre, Puy de Dome, and Cher. They made their entry into Nevers on Monday in the midst of an immense concourse of the population.

The Paris papers still eagerly discuss the Mexican question. The *Constitutionnel*, which has been putting forth strong claims to official inspiration on this subject, has published an article ostensibly to contradict the rumour that France intended to give Mexico to the Archduke Maximilian in exchange for the cession of Venice to Italy; and renews the declaration that the object of the expedition is to obtain satisfaction for French interests and to establish order. But the point of the article seems to be in the announcement that a triumph of French arms will be a reparation for the grievances of France—an intimation which, if it really have any authority at all, seems to say that if France could but recover the prestige at present somewhat obscured in Mexico she would gladly be out of the whole business.

The case of M. Greppo, who, with some other persons, is accused of belonging to a secret political society, came on Monday. The Court rejected the demand of several of the accused that police agents should not be heard as witnesses.

SPAIN.

M. Mon has tendered his resignation as President of the Chamber of Deputies. It is asserted that the Government has not decided whether to accept it or not.

SWITZERLAND.

Signor Ratazzi has addressed a note to the Swiss Government directing its attention to fresh movements by the party of action, and requesting it to watch the frontiers, in order that Swiss territory may not be made the scene of revolutionary enterprises.

ITALY.

At Bologna, Reggio, and other towns fêtes have taken place in celebration of the recognition of Italy by Russia, which has been officially notified to the French and other Governments.

The Royal Princes have received an enthusiastic welcome at Gengi, Trapani, and Maballa.

The Portuguese Envoy has presented a letter to King Victor Emmanuel from the King of Portugal requesting the hand of the Princess Pia in marriage. The Princess was born on the 16th of October, 1847, and is the god-daughter of Pope Pius IX., whose name she bears. She is remarkable both for good looks and intelligence.

In the Chamber of Deputies Signor Curzio again asked the Government whether there was any foundation for the rumour that Italy would take part in the Mexican expedition. In reply, both Signor Ratazzi and the Minister for Foreign Affairs renewed in the most positive manner their former declaration that no foreign Power had ever taken any steps to engage the Italian Government to take part in the expedition; that it had never formed the subject of discussion in the Government councils; and, finally, that the rumours spread abroad on the subject were entirely unfounded.

A rumour was current at Naples, on Tuesday, that Chiavone, with two of his followers, has been killed in a desperate combat with the French in the Picco mountains.

News has been received from Naples that a strike of workmen at the dockyard necessitated the intervention of the National Guard, by whom order was re-established.

A private letter from Rome states that on the occasion of the 62nd Regiment of the line of the French garrison marching before the Pope to receive his benediction, the cries "Vive Napoleon!" "Vive l'Italie, avec Rome pour Capitale!" were loudly shouted. The Pope, offended at this demonstration, immediately quitted the balcony.

According to a telegram received from Marseilles, a great popular demonstration in favour of Italian unity was expected in Rome, and the French and Pontifical troops were consigned to their barracks. The last time such a demonstration was expected these same troops under the command of General Goyon, lined the Corso, and were flanked by pieces of artillery.

AUSTRIA.

The *Press* of Vienna has an article treating of the manner in which Austria is affected by the Russian recognition of Italy. "On this occasion," says the Vienna journal, "we can but sadly remark that the hope of injuring Austria has contributed not a little to this act. The Italians themselves will draw but little direct profit from this recognition, but the isolation which will result from it to Austria will be a precious gain for them. Russia and Prussia will be in future the diplomatic allies of Italy against Austria. It is not England that can console us for this loss. In Italy England is still more dangerous for us than Russia and Prussia; for there we encounter at every step an English interest. To complete isolation then are we led by the policy of those who continue the Metternich-Schwarzenberg system."

In Viennese official circles it is stated that Austria, France, England, and Prussia have acknowledged that the right of military occupation in Sardinia by the Porte is in accord with the stipulations of the Treaty of Paris.

PRUSSIA.

The Prussian Ministry appears resolved to avenge its defeats in the Legislature by a redoubled persecution of the press. In the course of the present month there are no less than twelve Government prosecutions to be decided; and several managers of journals are now in prison for refusing to reveal the names of contributors. The journals, however, unanimously declare that they accept the battle. Among other manoeuvres the Government is seeking to injure the journals in their financial resources. Orders have been given to all industrial companies which have anything to expect from the Government to discontinue inserting any advertisements in the Opposition papers. The President of the Rhenish provinces was obliged to tell the Government that there was no other kind of journal in his district.

RUSSIA.

We find from the St. Petersburg journals that the Russian Government is weighing very heavily upon the press, many newspapers and periodicals, including even literary reviews, having been suddenly suspended.

The *Journal de St. Petersburg* contains a long article on the subject of the fires. It points to the universal indignation which the spectacle of the fires created, as a proof that they did not originate in any popular feeling. The evidence at present (says this journal) rather points to ordinary criminals than to political offenders as the incendiaries. Nevertheless, the inquiries show that revolutionary proclamations have been imported in immense quantities, and have been secretly distributed in private houses and in the streets; and it is possible that they have had some influence in corrupting the public mind. The journal then goes on to deny that the Emperor will abandon the important reforms which he had commenced.

As the Grand Duke Constantine was stepping into his carriage upon leaving the theatre at Warsaw, on the 3rd inst., a revolver was fired at him. The name of the assassin, who was arrested on the spot, is Zarzinski, and the ball of the pistol, which was discharged close to his Royal Highness's person, grazed the Duke's left shoulder, fortunately without inflicting any serious wound, for on the following day the Grand Duke was able to transact public business. His Imperial Highness has opened his administration in Warsaw rather promisingly. He received a deputation from the clergy and the authorities on Sunday, and spoke to them frankly and generously regarding the attempt made upon his life. He stated that he did not attribute that attempt to the inhabitants of Warsaw, and added that even were there any reason to connect it with an organised conspiracy, it would nevertheless occasion no change whatever in the carrying out of the political programme already determined on for the government of Poland. The Grand Duke shook hands with Count Zamyski, the popular patriot, and invited his assistance in carrying out the reforms which the Emperor has accorded. So far the Grand Duke seems inclined to act towards the people placed under his government in a liberal and kindly spirit.

SWEDEN.

Sweden is entering into the movement of commercial progress which is stirring State after State through Europe. A Swedish journal announces that an official belonging to the department of Foreign Affairs at Stockholm has started for Paris to prepare the way for the negotiations which are to be opened for the conclusion of a treaty of commerce with France.

GREECE.

A Smyrna letter gives some details on the affairs of Greece which are not without interest. Emigrants were arriving in that city in crowds, in consequence of the persecutions inflicted by the police King Otho, in spite of the amnesty. The Greeks, who are numerous in the Ottoman empire, take part in the national movement against the reigning dynasty. A scene even took place at the Greek church at Smyrna. The Greek Consul endeavoured to get up a cry of "Otho for ever!" but an absolute resistance was opposed to the attempt. Even a boy of twelve years of age, charged to recite the prayer for the King in the Liturgy, changed certain words, substituting for the flattering expressions of the text others which were anything but complimentary. A police agent belonging to the Consular office drew his knife to strike the boy, but was disarmed, and a blood was shed. The public are, however, greatly excited. The refugees spread the report that the King, not feeling himself in safety at Athens, had given orders to render the citadel of Nauplia impregnable, intending to retire there as a refuge from revolution.

SYRIA.

Some French journals represent the present condition of Syria as much less satisfactory than there had been reason to hope after the measures adopted by Faud Pacha, before he quitted the province and delivered up his powers into the hands of Daoud El-Fendi, the present Governor. In an encounter which took place in the village of Bous, the Druses killed three Christians and levied a heavy contribution on the principal inhabitants of the locality. The population of Bous took refuge at Damasus. "The facts," says the *Pays*, "are too of a nature to excite fears that the Syrian question will revive, but they merit the attention of the Turkish Government."

CHINA AND JAPAN.

We have news from Shanghai by telegraph to the 21st of May. Hostilities against the Taiping rebels were being actively carried on, and Ningpo and Tsangpon had been wrested from them and restored to the Imperialists. Native troops had been sent from India to protect Shanghai. The commercial news from India, China, and Australia is rather favourable. The Japanese have taken possession of the Bonin Islands, which it was thought the Russians coveted.

THE CIVIL WAR IN AMERICA.

GENERAL BUTLER AT NEW ORLEANS.

General Butler is still "acting with vigour" at New Orleans. He has hung a gentleman named Mumford for pulling down the Federal flag in a street tumult, although there was no actual proof that the unhappy man committed the deed for which he suffered, and although he walked to the scaffold undaunted at his doom and declared with his dying breath that he was innocent of the charge. Mumford's fate has already served to infuse a new drop into the overflowing hatred which the whole South, male and female, entertains toward the Yankee attorney, whom civil war has transformed into a General. Butler has determined that "order" shall reign in New Orleans, even although he be compelled to use for the purpose the identical means which the late Grand Duke Constantine employed to come to power in Warsaw. There is this difference, however, between the Russian Grand Duke and the American lawyer—the one reserved his brutality for men, and bestowed none of it upon women whose misfortune it was to be subjected to his rule; while the other not only makes no distinction, but endeavours to fasten upon ladies who are too indiscreet patriotic to please him a term of opprobrium the most disgraceful that can be applied to their sex. Butler has made every Southern man and woman, young or old, his personal enemy, and proved himself as great an obstacle to the re-establishment of Federal authority in the South as General Beauregard himself. The Federal Government is said to be of this opinion, and to have intimated that less of his peculiar "vigour" would be very acceptable at head-quarters. One of the most recent of Butler's acts was to declare that he would not permit any disloyal prayers, or prayers that he considered to be disloyal, to be offered up from New Orleans to the throne of the Almighty!

General Butler had condemned one alderman and the chairman of the Ladies' Relief Committee to hard labour, with ball and chain, in Fort Jackson. The controversies between General Butler and the foreign Consuls continue. The acting British Consul Coppell having asked for information concerning the oaths to be administered to foreign residents, General Butler replied that no answer would be given until Mr. Coppell's credentials and pretensions were recognised by the British Government and the Federal Executive. All attempts at official action on Mr. Coppell's part must cease, his credentials having been asked for but not exhibited.

BATTLE NEAR CHARLESTON.

A desperate engagement has taken place near Charleston, in which the Confederates claim the victory, and, as the Federals do not assert that they were the conquerors, it may be inferred that the Confederate claim has at least some foundation in fact.

The *Charleston Mercury* of June 17 gives the following detailed account of the engagement:

About dawn yesterday morning our pickets in front of Lamar's battery were driven in, and almost simultaneously the enemy's column were seen some 400 yards off, advancing with the bayonet, at double quick, to the assault. Our troops within the battery had been hard at work the evening before in throwing up another battery, and were almost worn out with fatigue. The first round that was fired at the Yankees was by Colonel T. A. Lamar himself. His men hastened with alacrity to their pieces, and were soon pouring grape and canister against the rapidly-approaching enemy. As each discharge great grape was visible in the Yankee ranks; but still they came on without firing a single volley. It was afterwards ascertained that their muskets were empty, and that they had actually hoped to carry the battery with the bayonet alone; but the rapid and fearful cannonade and fusilade kept up against them was too severe for their nerves, and when close to our entrenchments they wavered, reeled, and finally fled in disorder. But a very short time elapsed before the enemy's column, reinforced by infantry and artillery, reformed and again came forward. This time they did not disdain the use of cartridges, but poured heavy volleys against our battery as they advanced. But again the terrible discharges of grape and canister mowed down the approaching line, and, notwithstanding the remonstrances of their officers, again the Yankees broke and retreated pell-mell from the field. A third time the enemy formed his line and advanced in a last desperate effort to gain the battery, but again in vain. The assailants had reached the ditch, and some of them succeeded in mounting the embankment, but they paid for their rashness with their lives, and their comrades behind, taking warning by their fate, fled once more, this time not to be rallied to a direct charge. Between the charges which proved disastrous to the Yankees a galling fire was kept up against our battery from three gun-boats in the creek, about 1700 yards east of our position. A crossfire was also steadily maintained against us from the land batteries which the enemy had erected—one on the edge of the wood in which a fight with the 47th Georgia Regiment occurred last week, and another between that point and the position occupied by the gun-boats. Sherman's famous field battery also took part in the engagement, being divided into two sections, which played upon different parts of our works. It had now become evident to the enemy that the men who held our battery had no idea of yielding it, and the plan of attack from the front was given up. Flanking bodies were thrown forward to assault our works from the direction of the marshes, which skirted our battery on either side. On the east side of the battery the movement was speedily frustrated, and the few bold men who ventured close enough to pour their fire into the pestilential fortifications were cut down. No less than seventeen were killed outside the ditch; and one who had mounted the parapet fell on the top, pierced by eight balls. On the west side of the battery the attack was more serious. The famous New York 79th Regiment took up a position so as to enfilade our guns, and kept up a constant and effective fire of musketry to drive off our gunners. They were met by the Charleston battalion and the Kuntau Regiment. For a time the fight was desperate; but the Louisiana battalion, under Lieutenant-Colonel McHenry, came up at the critical moment in gallant style, and the repulse of the Highlanders was no longer doubtful. The enemy was, for the last time, forced back with great slaughter, and the day was won. Among the casualties is the name of Colonel Lamar, of the battery, who was wounded, but continued to fight with his guns. Captain Samuel J. Reed, Lieutenant Humbert, Lieutenant J. J. Edwards, and Lieutenant R. W. Greer are among

the officers killed; and Captain L. C. King was mortally wounded. Our total loss, as nearly as we can ascertain, was about 40 killed and 100 wounded. The enemy's was far heavier. We buried yesterday 110 dead Yankees left on the field.

Federal accounts state that the Federals attacked James Island, near Charleston, and were repulsed after four hours' hard fighting, with losses of 600 killed, wounded, and missing. The Federals were obliged to retreat under cover of their gun-boats.

BATTLE BEFORE RICHMOND.

On the 27th inst., the Confederates made an attack on the right wing of the Federals. The division of Stonewall Jackson attacked McClellan's division of reserves on the extreme right. After a fight of three hours Jackson was repulsed. The Confederates then made several attacks on the Federal right wing, and severe fighting ensued. General McClellan then commenced the strategic movements for which he had been preparing: his whole right wing fell back and crossed the south side of the Chickahominy in rear of the left wing. He afterwards made for James River. The evacuation of White House was completed on the 28th, the Federals carrying off all their matériel.

GUN-BOAT BATTLE IN ARKANSAS.

An engagement had taken place between the Federal gun-boats and Confederate batteries erected below St. Charles, eighty-five miles from the mouth of White River. The official despatch of Colonel Patch, in command of the Federals, is as follows, dated June 21:—

"On arriving eight miles below here last evening we ascertained that the enemy had two batteries here, supported by a force (number unknown) of cavalry. A combined attack was made at 7 p.m. to-day. The regiment under my command (46th Indiana) landed two miles and a half below the battery, and skirmishers were thrown out, who drove in the enemy's pickets. The gun-boats then moved up and opened on their batteries. A rifle shot from one of the batteries penetrated the steam drum of the Mount City, disabling, by scalding, most of her crew. Apprehensive that some similar accident might happen to the other gun-boats, and hence leave my small force without their support, I signalled the gun-boats to cease firing, and we would storm the battery. They ceased at exactly the right moment, and my men carried the battery gallantly. The infantry were driven from the front of the guns, the gunners shot at their posts, their commanding officer, Lieut. (formerly of the United States' Navy), wounded and captured, together with eight brass and iron guns and ammunition. The enemy's loss is unknown. We have buried seven or eight of their dead, and other dead or wounded are being brought in. The casualties among my own command are small, the only real loss being from the escaping steam on the Mount City. She will probably be repaired and ready to proceed with us up the river to-morrow."

GENERAL NEWS.

President Lincoln and General Pope had gone to West Point to consult General Scott. Mr. Lincoln had returned to Washington, and General Pope was said to have joined General McClellan before Richmond.

General McClellan had reported officially that the pickets on the left of his army before Richmond had been considerably advanced under a sharp resistance from the Confederates. The pickets and lines of the Federals under Generals Heintzelman and Hooker were where he wished them to be. The affair was over, and he had gained his point with little loss. Notwithstanding strong opposition, the Confederates were driven out of their camp in front. The ground gained was a swamp with thick undergrowth, beyond which is an open country. The position gained is considered important. Reinforcements still continue to be demanded by General McClellan, but were still not forthcoming.

The Federal War Department has offered 2 dols. premium and one month's pay in advance to all recruits.

It is stated that the Federal General Benham will be court-martialed for disobedience of General Hunter's orders in attacking the batteries before Charleston.

General Fremont had asked to be relieved from his command because General Pope had been appointed over him. President Lincoln has acceded to General Fremont's request and appointed General Rufus King to take his place.

The steamer Leopis, from Naseau, has run the Charleston blockade. Southern papers state that great efforts are being made to hold Vicksburg.

President Lincoln has sent to the Senate a treaty made by the American Minister loaning to Mexico 11,000,000 dollars.

At New Orleans the Federal surgeon Biddle having taken a slave to be his servant the owner of the slave retook him from Biddle. The owner was therupon condemned to two years' imprisonment in the parish gaol, it having been decided that the Federal army must have everything it requires for its use.

Both Houses of Congress have passed the Tax Bill. The tax imposed upon cotton amounts to 4c. per lb. A Committee of the House of Representatives has passed an amendment authorising the issue of 150,000,000 dols. demand-notes, with the privilege to the Secretary of the Treasury to issue notes of less value than 5 dols. The House of Representatives has passed the Treasury Note Bill. Both Houses of Congress have passed the Pacific Railroad Bill.

As the municipality of Norfolk still refuse to take the oath of allegiance to the Federal Government, martial law has been proclaimed. There continue to be numerous petty disturbances in Norfolk between Union men and Secessionists.

A house has been fitted up in Louisville for the imprisonment of women who do or say anything to incite rebellion.

Four men have been hung at New Orleans for falsely representing themselves as Federal officials, searching houses in the city, and stealing articles therefrom. One of these men was an Englishman.

Great excitement prevailed on the Isthmus of Panama, a body of General Mosquera's troops having landed at Aspinwall. The Governor of Panama had ordered the citizens to arm themselves, but eventually compromised by permitting Mosquera's troops to go to Panama.

The judgment against the Circassian declares that papers were found on board giving conclusive proof of a deliberate intention to run the blockade.

GENERAL STATE OF FEELING IN THE COUNTRY.

But Butler no longer stands alone as the director of men's consciences in the little matter of their prayers, the Provost Marshal of the city of Alexandria, within a few miles of Washington, having waited lately upon the minister of the Baptist church in that city and informed him that if he could not pray for the President of the United States and for the success of the Federal arms, he (the Provost) would be under the disagreeable necessity of shutting up his church and prohibiting his ministrations. The rev. gentleman, nothing daunted, declined to pray for the President, and refused still more emphatically to pray for the success of the Federal arms. Next morning, on going to the church, he found it shut up and the approaches guarded by the military. Several other churches and clergymen, both at Alexandria and at Washington, are threatened with the same punishment. If these things be done under the very nose of the President, and within earshot of the deliberations of Congress, where, if anywhere, the Federal authority might be supposed to merit and to receive the respect due to existing and *de facto* power, what is the world to believe of the state of feeling still further south, if not that it is still more bitterly hostile? The military successes of the Federal Government do not overawe but envenom the South, and the longer the struggle is protracted the less likelihood there appears of political amity, to say nothing of political unity, between them. Mutual hate is separating them further every day. They are already two nations, and nothing again can make them one in heart, or in interest, or in wishes. The South knows this. The North pretends not to see it, or refuses to believe it.

EMIGRATION TO AUSTRALIA.—The emigrants from the United Kingdom to Australia in 1861 were 18,225 in number, 8,606 males and 10,319 females. The whole of this excess of females was secured for Victoria, where, indeed, it was wanted, for the census last year found there 328,651 males and only 211,671 females. Victoria voted £79,000 for immigration last year, and the Emigration Commissioners have sent thither 362 single women; but the larger portion of the assisted emigration to Victoria is conducted in private ships by means of passage warrants, which may be obtained in the colony for small sums, the charge being much less for females than for males. A sum of £1000 was devoted last year to the introduction of vine-dressers and others skilled in the manufacture of wine and oil.

IRELAND.

THE BOYNE ANNIVERSARY.—The anniversary of the battle of the Boyne has passed over in the most peaceful manner. There were no processions or banners, no display of any kind, in Lisburn, Londonderry, or Enniskillen. In the last place thousands had been assembled during the week to attend "a camping" conjured by Wesleyans on the American plan, and the public mind was so absorbed in these "revival" meetings that they thought it almost a sin to spend a thought on political demonstrations of any kind. It was observed as singular that in Armagh there was "neither drumming, nor bonfire, nor firing of shots during the night." The church towers were not decorated with flags, as in former years. In Portadown there was music, but no parades.

MORE VIOLENCE AND THREATENING.—In Tipperary a man named Meara has been brutally assaulted and nearly beaten to death because he was a witness against the parties at the quarter sessions. Mr. Walpole, a gentleman who purchased large tracts of land in that county, and gives daily employment to 300 or 400 people, has received a notice threatening him with death. Mr. Crofts, a magistrate of the county of Cork, has received a similar notice because he altered the boundaries of two farms. Mr. Rudge, agent for Kingston estates, county of Cork, has been served with a notice threatening him with death in case he shall attempt to seek for rent until after harvest.

SCOTLAND.

THE MOORS.—Seldom have the prospects of the sportsman looked brighter in Ross-shire than they did this year during the incubation. The moors were amply stocked, no traces of disease were perceptible, and more than the usual number of nests were discovered. To a considerable extent these fair promises have since been blasted, the rough and wet weather which prevailed for nearly a fortnight after the young birds were hatched having proved very fatal: whole broods in some instances have perished. The broods of grouse are numerous in Strathern, but the birds are weak and small, owing to the cold. Blackcocks have withstood the cold well, and the broods are plentiful on the hills in the north side of the strath. Roosie abound in all directions, and from the abundance of pasture are in fine condition. Wild ducks, hares, &c., are numerous; and pheasants are the only kind of game which has suffered severely from the severity of the weather. Partridges are uncommonly rife both on the hillsides and on the banks of the Earn. The weather in Perthshire continues very unfavourable for the sporting prospects of the season. It is bitterly cold, and the young coveys of grouse stand much in need of warm weather. They grow ill, and are yet of no size. The hatching season is now over, and the broods are smaller than usual, and the coveys generally numbering from six to eight birds. The added eggs were numerous this year after the period of incubation. From the deer forests the prospects are more cheering. The fawning season is advancing favourably. The pastures of the forests are verdant and luxuriant, and there are numerous fine herds this year.

THE YELVERTON MARRIAGE CASE.—In the Court of Session at Edinburgh last week Lord Ardmillan gave judgment in favour of Major Yelverton, deciding that there was no Scotch marriage. In the action of declarator by Mrs. Longworth (Yelverton), he finds that the person has not proved that she is the wife of the defendant, and he assizes the defendant. In the action of declaration of freedom, &c., by Major Yelverton, he declares against the defendant, and finds Major Yelverton entitled to costs. The cohabitation which the law requires (said his Lordship) must be such cohabitation as husband and wife as creates a general belief of marriage. The cohabiting under colour of professed marriage is not the cohabitation which the law requires. It must be open and avowed cohabitation, as in the relation of husband and wife. The using a false name, and especially the use of a maiden name, is most unfavourable to the plea of cohabitation. Besides, a divided reputation or a limited reputation confined to a narrow sphere, while elsewhere an opposite reputation exists, is not sufficient. In this case, apart from the mere colour assumed to escape scandal and procure admission to lodgings and hotels, there has been no habit and reputation at all. The cohabitation of the parties, such as it was, did not create a general belief in their marriage. There was no such general belief; neither relatives, nor friends, nor neighbours seriously believed, as the result of open conjugal cohabitation, that these parties were husband and wife. The Lord Ordinary has now explained the grounds on which he is of opinion that the pursuer's pleas are not well founded. The award of expenses to the successful party is in accordance with the general rule and practice of the Court. "This judgment has been reached after much anxiety and not without sympathy for the pursuer, but with a clear conviction that it is according to the truth of the case. For the conduct of the defendant there can be no excuse. But he was not the seducer, the seduced, or the betrayer of the pursuer. The story of the pursuer—her charms, her talent, her misfortune—even the intense and persevering devotedness of the passion by which she was impelled—must excite interest, pity, and sympathy. But she was no mere girl—no simpleton—no stranger to the ways of the world—no victim to insidious arts. She was not deceived. She fell with her own consent." Applying to the ascertained facts the ordinary rule of the Scottish law of marriage, the Lord Ordinary has found it impossible to arrive at any other conclusion than that the pursuer has not instructed that she is the lawful wife of Major Yelverton. This decision has been rekindled to the Inner House of the Court of Session. Judgment was given in Dublin on Tuesday on the exceptions to the charge of Chief Justice Monaghan on the Yelverton trial. Mr. Justice Christian and Mr. Justice Keogh held that the exceptions in reference to the Irish marriage should be allowed. Mr. Justice Hall and the Chief Justice were of opinion that all the exceptions should be overruled. The Court being equally divided the verdict stands; but defendant can still bring the case before the Court of Error.

THE PROVINCES.

RETRIBUTION.—Ten years ago a lone widow, named White, living in a little cottage in the village of Milton, fell a victim to the cupidity of some ruffians and her own folly in keeping her store of savings in her own house. Two men were suspected of the crime—Robins and Corber, but justice failed to reach them. Robins went abroad, but Corber remained behind to cultivate a small farm and keep a beer-shop. The other day news came from Rio de Janeiro that Robins had hanged himself, first confessing to participation in Mrs. White's murder. This so weighed upon Corber's evil conscience that he also hanged himself.

THE LAST ATTENTIONS OF A LOVER.—A young woman named Wild, a domestic servant at Oldham, attempted to commit suicide recently, in consequence, it is said, of her lover having told her he could not marry her. For this purpose she walked into a deep pool of water, but was fortunately seen by a workman passing at the time, who procured a rope and rescued her. While the girl was in the water, a young man was observed holding a lantern in his hand. He turned out to be her sweetheart, who was coolly watching her movements in the water, and very considerately holding her the light, so that she might see how to drown herself, it may be presumed, in the most comfortable manner possible.

THE VICEROY OF EGYPT AT LIVERPOOL.—His Highness the Viceroy of Egypt, who arrived at Liverpool on Sunday, spent the greater part of Monday in visiting the "halls," both public and private, of that town. In the course of the day addresses were presented to the distinguished visitor from the Chamber of Commerce, the East India and China Association, and the Mayor, Aldermen, and burgesses of the borough. His Royal Highness was everywhere most warmly received, and the public buildings, shipping, &c., were gaily decorated in his honour. His Royal Highness has also visited Manchester, and examined the curiosities of the "cotton city."

RELICS OF THE PAST.—A large dredging-machine has come upon the wreck of a vessel in Shields harbour, and the diver in the employ of the Tyne Commissioners is employed in lifting it by means of the weigh keel. This vessel is supposed to have lain in the bottom of the river since Sept. 8, 1749. On that day the Prince Frederick, of Guernsey, was driven from her anchors in a great storm of wind and ran foul of several vessels, some of which shared the same fate with her. The Prince Frederick, by the impetuosity of the wind on her larboard side, heeled gunwale in, and the starboard midship port being open to take in coals, the water filled her so quickly that she sank immediately. A custom-house officer named Harbottle, two men, and a boy perished, two of them in the cabin. Several anchors of a much more ancient date have been fished up during the recent dredging operations in the Tyne; and some old armour, as if soldiers had been drowned while crossing the stormy waters of the Tyne, have also been brought to light.

ATTEMPTED MILITARY MURDER.—On Saturday night, at a quarter to eleven o'clock, a man, named Michael Griffin, belonging to the second battalion of the 6th Rifles, quartered at Cambridge Barracks, Portsmouth, where he bears a very bad character, was seen in the barrack square, directly opposite the Colonel's quarters, "snapping caps." The sentry, observing Griffin doing this, called to the sergeant of the guard, whom he informed of the circumstance. The sergeant went out, and there saw Griffin, rifle in hand, who, on observing the sergeant, said, "If you do not go away I'll shoot you." The sergeant thereupon very cautiously turned back, in order to call out a file of the guard to capture the man, and while doing so heard the report of a rifle, and upon examination it was discovered that Griffin's rifle had been discharged, and that the ball had penetrated the area wall of the Colonel's quarters. His intention appeared to be somewhat mysterious, and whether his rifle went off accidentally or whether he fired it himself cannot be discovered. It is, however, generally believed that the man was hovering about the square in anticipation of seeing the Colonel at his window or elsewhere. The alarm raised by the sentry frustrated his intention. The men are permitted to retain ten rounds of ball cartridge, nine of which were found in Griffin's breast when he was taken. He was placed in confinement, and on Monday morning was taken before the Colonel for examination. The prisoner declined to say anything in explanation or in defence of his conduct. A court martial has been moved for to investigate the affair, which created much alarm.

MELANCHOLY CASE OF SHOOTING.—On Sunday afternoon a shocking accident occurred at Saltford. A young man had got possession of a gun which his parents would not allow him to keep at their house. He took it to the house of his brother-in-law, who allowed it to be hung over the mantelpiece. On the Sunday this man had a quarrel with his wife about one beer, when he said he would shoot her, and reached down the brother-in-law's gun. His wife screamed out, but the man discharged the gun, and his wife fell mortally wounded. The man evinced deep regret for what had occurred, and there is some doubt whether he knew that the gun was loaded.

THE COUNT DE CHAMBORD.—The latter part of the time of the residence of the Count de Chambord at Lucerne was, it is stated, marked by noisy and hostile demonstrations. For two days before his departure groups of Frenchmen and Italians assembled and uttered cries of "Long live Garibaldi!" "Down with the Count de Chambord!" A Swiss journal states that the Italians who reside at Lucerne, seeing the Count de Chambord and the Duchess of Parma going from their house to attend mass at the Catholic church, cried out several times, "Down with the Bourbons!" "Long live Napoleon III!" The same journal adds that the police energetically put an end to those demonstrations.

BANQUET AT THE MANSION HOUSE TO THE VICEROY OF EGYPT.—The Lord Mayor gave a grand banquet on Saturday last in honour of the Viceroy of Egypt. His Highness was present, and the company included a large number of distinguished personages. In responding to the toast of his health, the Viceroy spoke very warmly of the hospitality and kindness which he had received since he came to England. Mr. Disraeli, in a genial speech, responded to the toast of the House of Commons; and amongst the other speakers was M. Chevalier, who, as a juror of the International Exhibition, acknowledged the toast of their health.

THE BATTLE OF PULTOWA.—Sweden is about to have a national celebration on her own side of the anniversary of the battle of Pultowa, as a kind of reply to the Russian celebration, the announcement of which caused much warm discussion in Swedish journals a short time since. In Stockholm a committee has been formed to celebrate the anniversary of the battle. It is composed of the notabilities of the Parliament, the magistracy, the finance, and the nobility. The ceremony will be celebrated at the same time in the principal towns of Sweden. A national subscription has been opened to erect a monument to Charles XII, and the warlike who fought with him on the memorable day.

FRENCH BISHOPS AT HOME.—Several of the French Bishops on returning to their dioceses have met with a reception by no means in accordance with their representations at the Holy City. Demonstrations have taken place at Nismes, Toulouse, and Rennes. At the latter place the clerical party had taken great pains to secure an ovation; but, to their surprise and horror, no sooner had the Archbishop left the railway station than an immense body of workmen and students raised shouts of "Vive Garibaldi!" "Vive l'Italie!" and some four or five hundred of them surrounded his carriage, forming a mes unexpected cortège, until he reached his palace.

CHARITY CHILDREN'S FETE AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE.—The Crystal Palace presented an animated and interesting sight on Tuesday, in the presence of about 3000 of the charity-school children of the metropolis, who were taken there to enjoy a summer holiday. The day was beautifully warm and bright, and the effect both upon the children and the numerous visitors was in the highest degree enlivening. Ample provision was made for the enjoyment of the young folks, and the musical arrangements in which they took part were most praiseworthy.

THE PRESS IN SPAIN.—The Supreme Court of Justice of Madrid has just given an important decision in matters of press offences. A former deputy of the Cortes, M. Ruiz Pons, published in the month of September last a pamphlet against the family of the Bourbons, of which 10,000 copies were distributed in the country before the police had time to oppose its veto. A few days after M. Pons was arrested by order of the Governor, without any intervention of justice, and remained in prison six months without any definite charge being brought against him. He was then taken before the Royal Court of Saragossa, charged with outrage and calumny against the Queen, the members of the Royal family, the clergy, the magistracy, and the aristocracy. That Court declared itself incompetent, and ordered the liberation of M. Pons, saying that the offence ought to be tried by the tribunal charged with offences of the press. This latter tribunal, in its turn, declared the case not within its jurisdiction. The Public Prosecutor then appealed to the Supreme Court of Justice to decide in what court the case should be tried, alleging that an outrage committed by a clandestine pamphlet could not be considered as an offence of the press. The Court has now ordered M. Pons to be again taken before an ordinary tribunal, the charge against him belonging to the category of common offences.

THE LATE ATTEMPT TO ASSASSINATE GENERAL LUDERS.—A letter from St. Petersburg, dated June 29, gives the following account of the attempted assassination of General Luders:—"The day before yesterday, that is to say the 27th of June, in a public garden where mineral waters are drunk at Warsaw, General Count Luders was fired at by a person who suddenly emerged from behind a tree. The bullet entered the back of the General's neck, and came out at the right side of his mouth, smashing the jaw. The wound, though a dangerous one, does not compromise the life of the General, who immediately received the best surgical attendance. The assassin made his escape. A few days previously General Luders had received an anonymous and threatening letter, informing him that his death and the death of other high functionaries at Warsaw had been decided upon. The second victim designated is Lieuenant-General Kryjanowsky, Military Governor-General of Warsaw. The General was at St. Petersburg, having been sent for by the Emperor, but on the news of the attempt upon General Luders, the Emperor immediately ordered him to return to his post, which he did the following day by railway."

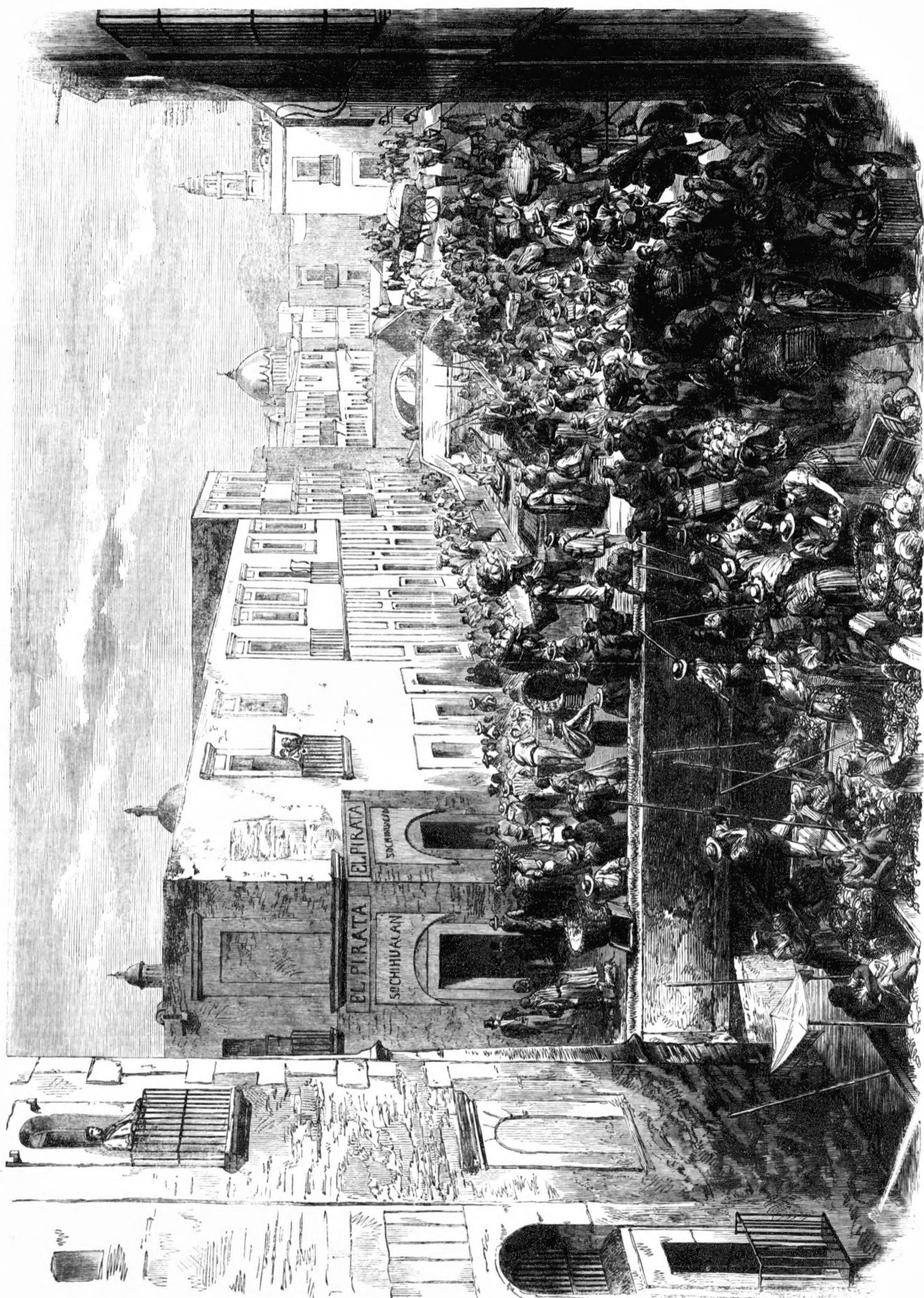
THE PUBLIC QUAY AT MEXICO.

We have on previous occasions given some account in our pages of the aspect of the city of Mexico and of the surrounding country, with Engravings illustrating the streets, public buildings, and inhabitants. We represent this week the quay, where the canoes and boats bring, by means of the canal, the various provisions sold in the market.

The entire district surrounding Mexico has changed from a series of lakes which a long time formed a sort of communicating chain to a large plain through which the canal is the highway to the city by which merchandise reaches the inhabitants. The lakes have now changed their site, in consequence of the drainage and the altered level of the ground, and lie at a considerable distance from their old beds. The report of Cortez in 1520 states that the province in which was situated the residence of that great Governor, Montezuma, was entirely surrounded by high and precipitous mountains; the plain was about seventy leagues in circumference, and in that plain were discovered two lakes which supplied all the valley for more than fifty leagues round. On these the inhabitants navigated canoes. Of the two great lakes of the valley of Mexico one was of sweet, and the other of salt, water, and they were separated from each other by a little mountain range. These mountains reared themselves in the midst of the plain, and the waters of the lakes mingled together in a strait which was situated between the hills and the height of Cordillera. The numerous towns and villages lying in one or other of these lakes communicated by means of canoes without passing on the land.

The great city of Tenochtitlan (Tenochtitlan) was founded in the midst of the salt lake, which had tides like the sea. Four dykes led to the city; these were constructed entirely by manual labour; the streets, or at least the principal thoroughfares, were very straight and broad, several of them being partly occupied by the navigable canals, ornamented with wooden bridges so large and well made that ten horsemen could pass at one time. The market, twice as large as that at Seville, was surrounded by an immense portico, under which were exposed all sorts of eatables, as well as ornaments in gold, silver, lead, and tin, precious stones, bone, quills, and feathers; also leatherwork and fabrics of cotton thread. Here, also, were to be found carved stones, ornamental tiles, and carpentry work; and passages were devoted to the sale of game, vegetables, and fruit. Here, too, were the houses of the barbers and the vendors of drugs, ointments, and plasters; the eating-houses and taverns where one might dine or drink for money. In short, so many things were to be seen and bought in the market of ancient Mexico that the conqueror and correspondent expresses his inability to name them. To avoid confusion, each description of merchandise was sold in a separate avenue, and in the midst of the large square (which he calls the *Audiencia*) sat a sort of assize consisting of ten or twelve persons who gave judgment in case of disputes arising between buyer and seller, while certain officers mixed continually in the crowd to see that only just prices were charged, and to seize the false weights or measures of dishonest shopkeepers.

This, then, was the Mexico of the past. Still the canal brings the canoes full of merchandise to the market—still innumerable articles may be sold in the more modern avenues of the great square; but it is not certain that the assize still meet to prevent fraud, and doubtless false weights and measures, as well as high prices, prevail occasionally in Mexico as they do in most large cities of the present degenerate time.



BOLDAN-STREET AND ITS QUAYS, MEXICO.



RAILWAY VIADUCT IN COURSE OF CONSTRUCTION ACROSS THE SARINE, CANTON OF FRIEDBURG, SWITZERLAND.

THE VIADUCT AT FRIBOURG.

The Sarine Viaduct, at Fribourg, is but just completed, and its gigantic proportions, as well as the wild and beautiful district through which it bears the iron road, render it one of the most interesting of European engineering operations.

The height of the viaduct, from the lower part of the valley to the bed of the rails, is more than 250 feet, while the entire length is above 1000 feet. This distance is divided into seven spaces by six piles, supported on bases of masonry varying in height according to the surface of the valley. Altogether, about 3000 tons of iron have been used in the construction of the work—that is to say, about 1100 tons for the bridge, and 1600 tons for the piles and supports. In consequence of its large dimensions, the work presented considerable difficulties, which in most works are only overcome by costly operations. These difficulties were successfully encountered, however, by the engineers, who employed a new system by which, as the bridge was completed piece by piece, it was used for the purpose of conveying the materials for constructing its own piles and supports, which were thus dropped, as it were, from the high land at the sides of the valley, and so built up until they reached the point of the viaduct at which they had been commenced. Our Engraving represents the bridge only half completed, and the fourth support of piles and masonry in the course of construction from the point where it was to meet the bridge itself. This was effected by an apparatus of cranes and wheels, which lifted the blocks and heavy piles over the end of the bridge, where a sliding gangway helped to direct them to their places, first within the framework of timber above the masonry, and afterwards completely up to the table of the bridge. The immense mass of materials thus accumulated from point to point made it necessary to employ a large number of workmen, and the operation was too important to be carelessly conducted. The expenses of constructing this viaduct and the line of railway has been very great, and the poor little Canton of Fribourg, which numbers, perhaps, not more than 105,000 inhabitants, have to meet the difficulty by being responsible for the loan of more than half a million in aid of the railway company.

The city of Fribourg, situated upon a rocky peak, has two suspension bridges of great strength, which attract most of the tourists as visitors. The viaduct of the railway, situated more than a mile off below the city, will not be less interesting, especially since nothing can be more beautiful than its situation, and nothing more striking than the effect produced upon the visitor when, arriving by the lovely promenade of the Palatinate and descending the valley by the woods shown on the left in our Engraving, he finds himself at the edge of that wood at the foot of the colossal bridge almost suspended, as it seems, in midair. Between two of the piles runs the little river Sarine, which, descending the mountains of the Bernese Oberland, where it takes its source, and passing the beautiful valley of Gruyere, winds to the foot of the rocks upon which stands the city of Fribourg.

INNER LIFE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—NO. 193.

THE GREAT EMBANKMENT QUESTION.

The great embankment question is now the absorbing topic in the House of Commons, the only important question, indeed, which remains for us to consider. Every thing of interest is disposed of; but this remains, and may possibly detain the House a week or two beyond the time which was all but fixed for its rising. Let us, therefore, show our readers how this matter stands at present, and the possibilities and probabilities which may lie ahead of this important measure. This bill to enable the Commissioner of Works to embank the Thames from Blackfriars to Westminster-bridge was brought into the House some weeks ago. It was read a first time, read a second time, and then referred to a Select Committee up stairs. The bill of Mr. Cowper provided that the roadway should be a carriage-way through the whole length. The Committee, however, altered the bill, and proposed to stop the carriage-way at Whitehall-stairs, and from that point to Westminster-bridge to allow only a footway. The object of this change was to protect the Duke of Buccleuch, Mr. Horsman, and other aristocratic people who live in Whitehall-gardens from the annoyance of dust and noise which will be inflicted upon them if carts, waggons, omnibuses, &c., are allowed to run in front of their houses. Last Thursday week this bill so altered came back to the House, and the House resolved itself in due form into Committee to examine its clauses, made some progress, and continued the examination on Friday. The clause which made the alteration was clause 9; but in clause 8 there were certain words which referred to the change, and Mr. Locke, the member for Southwark, moved to strike out these words preparatory to another motion which he intended to make—viz., to strike out clause 9 altogether, and upon these words in clause 8 the parties joined issue and fought the battle. Mr. Locke put the question very fairly. "If you vote for my motion," he said, "you will vote for the opening of the road. If you vote against it, you will vote for closing the road." Well, after a long and feverish debate the question was put in this form:—Mr. Speaker: "It has been proposed to leave out the words [here reading them]; but what they were is of no consequence to me. The question which I have to put is, that the words proposed to be left out stand part of the question. Those that are for it say Ay; those that are against it say No." Whereupon a division was called, and the noes had it, which means that the words were ordered to be struck out, by a majority of 149 to 109. Then followed clause 9, and this was at once struck out without a division, the friends of the footway versus the roadway not thinking it worth while to go to a division again in face of so decisive a majority. This is, then, how the business stands at present, whilst we are writing. The Duke is defeated; but let not our readers suppose that this decision is final and conclusive. The question may be again raised upon bringing up the report. At present all that has been done is this:—A Committee of the whole House has recommended that this change be made. Some days before this Paper sees the light, the Chairman of the Committee, when the House is assembled, with the Speaker in the chair, will bring up the report of the Committee, and then it will be competent for any member to move that the clause struck out be reinstated; and, as there were present at the fight in Committee only 258 members, it is possible that the decision of the Committee may yet be reversed. But supposing this decision be left unassailed in the Commons, the bill has still to go to the Lords, and of course their Lordships may, if they please, insert the clause, or they may reject the bill. If they reject the bill—which, however, we have no fear they will do—there is an end of the embankment scheme this year; but if they merely reinstate the clause, then this will be the effect—the bill will come back to the Commons, and the question whether the Commons will disagree or agree to the Lords' amendment will be put. If the Commons disagree, the bill will go back again to the Lords, and should the Lords refuse to make any alteration, the bill will be lost; but if the Commons should agree, the bill will pass, and the Duke will have the victory. What the Lords will do remains to be seen.

DEBUT OF MR. DOULTON.

The debate on Thursday night was notable for the appearance of a new performer on the Parliamentary stage—to wit, Mr. Frederick Doulton, the new member for Lambeth, lately elected in place of Mr. Roupell. Mr. Doulton is a celebrated speaker in Lambeth; has the character there of being a very slashing orator; and it was confidently expected that he would not be long before he tried his powers in the House of Commons, and as confidently predicted by his admirers that he would succeed. To do him justice, however, he has not been in a hurry to seize his laurels, but has for some months maintained a judicious silence. This was wise of Mr. Doulton, for by this delay he has had time and opportunity to look about him, make himself familiar with the forms and catch the spirit of the House. Mr. Doulton rose to speak at a most unfortunate time for a new speaker. There had been a squabble between Sir John Shelley and Mr. Cowper. After that Sir William Jolliffe caught the Speaker's eye. It was dinner time when Sir William rose; but as Sir William was a member of the Thames Embankment Committee, and was supposed to have something special to say, and is, moreover, a gentleman of high standing in the House, the members sat out

his speech very quietly. But as soon as Sir William returned to his seat, a large number of them prepared to start off to dinner. They paused, however, for a minute or two, when they saw a new member rise. It was, however, only for a minute or so, just to ask who the debutant was; and when it was ascertained that it was only "Doulton, the Lambeth man," they rose in a mass and moved off, chattering as they took their flight like a flock of disturbed jackdaws. Now, nothing can be more trying to a new speaker than this. Practised old hands do not mind it. Old Colonel Sykes, who has a habit of rising just as the members flock out to dinner, speaks as calmly and with as much self-possession amidst the hubbub as he does when the House is quiet; but to a debutant nothing can be more trying; and when we saw Mr. Doulton up, and some hundred or two of members on the stir, we trembled for his success. But the member for Lambeth bravely held on, kept his self-possession, held fast to the line of his argument, and, in short, weathered the storm without wreck or damage. And when the diners were gone, and the House grew quiet, he got the ear of it, and kept its attention for half an hour or more. In short, Mr. Doulton made a hit. But, let it not be supposed that a bright particular oratorical star has appeared over the horizon, or that Mr. Doulton will prove a power in the House. Out of Lambeth no star of this sort rises, we may be sure. All that we can expect is that on topics which Mr. Doulton understands we may expect him to speak sensibly and with a certain effect. This, and no more; and, considering Mr. Doulton's antecedents, it will be a great thing for him to have done if he achieve this. In Lambeth beadledom Mr. Doulton is reputed to be a very capital speaker; and his friends there quite expected that he would astonish the House; but beadledom is not the House of Commons, and stars which glitter brightly enough in Lambeth marshes are hardly observable here. Still Mr. Doulton has done well: he spoke sensibly, had his facts well in hand, used them with considerable effect, and kept the attention of the House.

MR. HORSMAN.

Mr. Horsman's studied harangues have come to be a bore. They smell of the lamp; every sentence and phrase is obviously polished, and planished, and pointed at home; they are not so much speeches as essays elaborated upon paper and committed to memory. This has become patent to all who listen to Mr. Horsman. Sometimes he drops, through temporary failure of memory, a sentence, and, suddenly discovering his loss, turns back to pick up what he has dropped, and all through his speeches there are evidences of careful elaboration—everywhere marks of the file are perceptible. Now, these elaborate harangues never were and never will be permanently popular in the House. At first they may astonish and produce great effect, but we soon weary of their sameness—tire of the same balanced sentences, the same ever-recurring clichées, the same intonations of voice, and the same emphasis of action. And more especially do these studied speeches become unpopular when they are, as most of Mr. Horsman's are, impregnated with venomous acidity. A good stand-up fight arising out of the circumstances of the hour we like, and we are not at all squeamish about the hardness of the blows which are given, but then they must be extempore blows, prompted by sudden passion. We do not like malice prepense, as the indictments have it. It is not English. But in Mr. Horsman's speeches there is really very little else but this. Divest them of their personal allusions and their bile, and what have we left? His facts are always exaggerations; his reasoning is illogical; his conclusions are inconsequent; whilst the opinions which he broaches at times are positively startling from their extreme character. On Thursday week his attacks were more than usually extravagant, and we may say absurd. What, for example, could be more ridiculous than that elaborate defence of the impartiality of Committees of the House of Commons, "the very worst and most expensive tribunals in the world," as Lord Brougham has told us. Before the Embankment Committee Mr. Horsman said that the "peasant and the poor were equals," and that "the noble Duke (of Buccleuch) approached the Committee in the same attitude as the meanest inhabitant of Westminster." This flight of oratory was intended to have great effect, to bring down roar of applause, but, instead of applauding, the House burst into a roar of laughter, as well it might, the thing was so ludicrously and absurdly untrue. And what had that elaborate panegyric of the Duke, got up in Mr. Horsman's best style, to do with the case in hand? The Duke opposed the embankment. Was it any answer to say he was a good landlord? We were reminded of a somewhat similar defence of George III. "He promoted the American War; he was a most arbitrary Monarch, it was said; but how faithful he was to his wife?"

JOHN LOCKE.

England, and London especially, are deeply indebted to Mr. John Locke, the member for Southwark, for it is to him mainly that we owe the victory just achieved. Lord Palmerston was for giving way; and just before the division he expressed a hope that "his honourable friend" would not divide the House. But Mr. Locke stood firm as Ailsa Rock, and, unmoved by Dukes or Lords, pressed the question to a division and got the victory—certainly to the astonishment of the Government, and perhaps to his own. Mr. Locke is one of the plain, honest, straightforward men of the House. By profession he is a lawyer. The Government lately made him Recorder of Brighton, and no doubt a very good Recorder he is. But there is not an atom of attorneyism in Mr. John Locke; on the contrary, he is straightforward, plain-spoken, calls a spade a spade, and always goes straight to the mark. And he looks what he is—as most men do if we have eyes to see it. He is sturdy, broadshouldered, and has a round, florid, goodhumoured face, arguing good living and good digestion. Mr. Locke is a metropolitan member, and this class is the fashion amongst the swells to ridicule and scorn; but they do good service, some of them, at times, and more than once Mr. Locke, in his plain, stately way, has done some useful things. At all events, he is faithful to his constituents: their interests he never neglects. So much for Mr. John Locke. He is not one of our foremost men; he makes no pretension to such a position; but he is a good representative, and on this embankment question has done the State service.

GARIBOLDI IN SICILY.—Immediately after Garibaldi's arrival in Palermo the municipality issued the following proclamation:—"Fellow-citizens,—General Garibaldi arrived here unexpectedly yesterday evening. The man who, in 1860, came to Palermo as our liberator is to-day our guest. The glorious dictator of Sicily presents himself as a private citizen. Let him be welcomed! Fellow-citizens, the municipality units in demonstrations of the affection and gratitude of our people for him who delivered us from the most cruel of servitudes, and who has done so much to make this country to the rest of the Italian family. By our calmness, by our concord, we will show him that we are worthy of his affection. Long live General Garibaldi!" On the evening of his arrival Garibaldi, who was staying at the Trinacria Hotel, was compelled by the cries of an immense crowd to show himself in the balcony, where he uttered the following words:—"I salute you, people of Palermo! We knew each other in the moment of danger. If there is a people in the world who deserve my affection it is the people of Palermo. People of great initiatives, you merit the gratitude of the entire peninsula and the admiration of the world. Yes, I am touched; this people moves me. I salute you; I am with you, and I shall not leave Palermo immediately." The next day Garibaldi, in company with the Royal Prince and the Prefect of Palermo, M. Pallavicini, one of his old friends, inaugurated the fête-contest. The fête was a splendid one, and the most perfect order reigned "in this city," so well as the language of one of the journals, "of 200,000 inhabitants, all so impressionable and so ardently devoted to Garibaldi." The General several times addressed the multitude, and always upon the necessity of concord. "There are two men," he said, "who will never deceive you; listen to them. They are Victor Emmanuel and myself. Rome and Venice will be ours before long. To attain this object we must resign ourselves to any sacrifice. Italy must be one—one—one." A Turin letter has the following mysterious passage:—"Was the appearance of Garibaldi in Palermo as great a surprise to Ministers as to everybody else? It is not easy to answer this question, or to say, for certain, that Minister is not aware that embassies are going on, and that a maritime expedition is in preparation, which will be commanded by Garibaldi. It is said that Generals Bixio, Metaxa, and Sforza will not take part in it; and it is added that it will not compromise the Italian Government, as it will be undertaken by Garibaldi at his own risk and peril, without doing violence to our international relations. So much the better. Good speed to him! He will be accompanied, as it appears, only by eighty of the Garibaldian officers who were admitted into the regular army. It is said that they have given in their resignation to-day, but the fact is not yet known with certainty."

Imperial Parliament.

FRIDAY, JULY 4.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

Some discussion took place relative to the establishment of a telegraph communication between Canada and British Columbia, and with reference to the renewal of the licence to trade in the Indian territory granted to the Hudson's Bay Company.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS.

At the morning sitting of the House of Commons, the Mersey and Irwell Protection Bill was read a second time, and the Merchandise Marks Bill passed through Committee.

At the evening sitting several questions, as usual, were addressed to the Government on the order for going into Committee of Supply. Mr. Layard, who was the principal respondent, said it was hoped that friendly relations would soon be restored between this country and Paraguay; that it was the intention of the French Government to interfere with legitimate commerce at the port of Tumbez; and that the Turkish Government had not violated any engagement in their recent proceedings in Servia and Montenegro; and, further, that the Government did not know what progress the Turkish loan commissioners had made.

Mr. COCHRANE called attention to the report of the Select Committee of last year on the diplomatic service, and urged that her Majesty's Government ought to carry out the recommendations of the Committee to extend the leave of absence to two months, to increase the rate of salaries, and so forth, which led to a long discussion ending in no result.

Questions relating to the extortions of cab and omnibus drivers, and the oppressive nature of the malt duty, were next put and replied to; and the House then resumed the discussion in Committee of

THE THAMES EMBANKMENT BILL.

Clauses 6 and 7 were agreed to after considerable discussion.

On clause 8, Mr. LOCKE proposed to amend it by omitting words referring to the limitation in a subsequent provision of the portion of the embankment between Fife House and Westminster-bridge to a footway only.

Sir J. PAXTON explained the reasons which induced the minority of the Select Committee to withhold their assent from the report.

Lord PALMERSTON opposed the amendment of Mr. Locke because he could not be any party to the permanent exclusion of the public.

Mr. LOCKE thought that, if the footway was to be converted into a roadway at all, it would be better to do it at once.

On a division the amendment was carried by 143 to 109; and the clause was altered to stand part of the bill.

Mr. LOCKE then moved that clause 9, providing that a footway only be made between Whitehall-stairs and Westminster-bridge, be struck out of the bill.

The motion was agreed to without a division. The result therefore is that the general traffic will be carried along the embankment in front of the House in Buccleuch's house.

Clauses 10 to 22 inclusive were ultimately agreed to.

MONDAY, JULY 7.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

ITALY.

Lord NORMANBY, in calling attention to the treatment of political prisoners at Naples, quoted a recent speech of a Neapolitan deputy, Signor Ricciardi, in the Parliament of Turin, as a proof that gross cruelty and injustice were perpetrated on the Neapolitan prisoners. The use of torture in extort confession was resorted to, a course which had never been adopted under the late régime. In conclusion, he moved for copies of any despatches on the subject of Neapolitan political prisoners which might be in the possession of the Government.

Earl RUSSELL, having stated that he had received no information on the subject referred to, condemned, in the very strongest terms, the late Government of Naples, stated the steps which had been taken by her Majesty's Government to expedite the trial of Mr. Bishop; and while, from want of information, he did not deny that prisoners were tortured, expressed his conviction that, if the allegation were true, it was due to the destitution of which the gaolors had been educated by their former masters. As a proof of the progress Italy was making as a kingdom, he had just heard that Prussia and Prussia were disposed to recognize her as a new kingdom.

Lord ELLENBOROUGH thought we had nothing to do with the treatment of persons who were not British subjects, and that the best thing we could do was to allow Italy to manage her own affairs and not act the part of her tutors and censors.

Lord BROUGHAM concurred generally in the observations of his noble friend who had just spoken, and inquired if it were true that Prussia had acknowledged the kingdom of Italy?

Earl RUSSELL replied that Prussia had declared her intention to do so when receiving an assurance from the Italian Government that Italy should continue to be peaceful towards her neighbours, and that she should not attempt any act of aggression upon the territories of Austria or the German Confederacy.

Lord HARROWBY agreed fully with what had fallen from Lord Ellenborough, and bore testimony, from recent experience and personal inspection, to the unity of all parts of Italy, their satisfaction with the present and fearless character of the late Government.

The Marquis of NORMANBY having replied, the motion for papers was negatived to.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

INDIA.

Sir C. WOOD, in reply to Mr. Smollett, said that the Government had come to the conclusion that it would be beneficial for the benefit of India to introduce gradually a permanent settlement of land in that country. The right hon. Baronet added that he hoped to be able to make his annual statement upon Indian finance on Monday next.

THAMES EMBANKMENT BILL.

The House resumed in Committee the consideration of the Thames Embankment Bill.

Lord J. MANNERS moved the omission of clause 34, which provided that no buildings should be erected on the ground abutting on the embankment without the consent of the Chief Commissioner of Works to the plan thereof.

Mr. COWPER supported the clause; and, after some discussion, the Committee divided, and the amendment was negatived by 162 to 145. The clause was then agreed to.

The remaining clauses having been agreed to,

Mr. AYRTON moved the addition of a clause providing that in case the societies of the Inner and Middle Temple should not admit the public freely to the use of their gardens, the land to be given them under the bill should become vested in the Board of Works for the purposes of public recreation.

The clause was opposed by Mr. M. SMITH, and, on a division, was negatived by a majority of 139 to 18. The bill then passed through Committee.

FORTIFICATIONS BILL.

On the order for going into Committee on the Fortifications (Provision for Expenses) Bill,

Mr. LINDSAY moved as an amendment, "That it is expedient to postpone the consideration of further expenditure upon the proposed fortifications authorised by this bill until there have been laid before the House copies or extracts of reports from our Naval Attaché at Paris showing the state of the French Navy from time to time, at intervals not exceeding three months, during the years 1860 and 1861."

The proposition was seconded by Mr. CORDEN.

Lord C. PAGE briefly replied to Mr. Lindsay, and argued that the French Navy was making very great progress, and that the measures which her Majesty's Government were taking for strengthening our armaments were regulated by information in the truth of which they had every confidence.

Mr. COBDEN declared, in opposition to all the general and vague assertions of the Government, that for the last twelve or fourteen years the French Navy bore far less proportion to the English Navy than it did in the reign of Louis Philippe. The hon. gentleman proceeded to comment upon the conduct of the Premier in reference to invasion panics, and declared that the noble Viscount was to a large extent responsible for those absurd and groundless apprehensions.

Sir J. PAULINGTON said the Navy of France was at this moment superior (in the matter of iron-cased ships) to that of England, and it behaved her Majesty's Government not to relax the efforts which they were now making to reconstruct our maritime defence.

Lord PALMERSTON observed that the subjects referred to by Messrs. Lindsay and Cobden had nothing whatever to do with the question before the House. The hon. member for Rochdale was very angry with him, and had accused him of every possible breach of every duty incumbent upon a Prime Minister. He received those accusations with the utmost calmness, because he differed in much with Mr. Cobden that he felt proud of being the object of his censure. His (Lord Palmerston's) idea was that England ought to be defended, and that, as her Navy could not exist without dry docks, it was necessary to have them permanently fortified, so as to be serviceable in the case of any sudden emergency. The views held by Mr. Cobden on subjects of this kind were wholly fallacious, and if the country were to place confidence in them they would be following a blind and misguided leader. The hon. member was no doubt a great authority upon free trade, but in speaking upon naval and military subjects he was *ultra crepidate*, and became a most obstinate controversialist.

The amendment was then withdrawn, and the bill passed through Committee.

TUESDAY, JULY 8.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

The Naval and Victualling Stores Bill passed through Committee. At the motion of Lord STANLEY of ALDRIDGE the Merchant Shipping Act Amendment Bill, after a brief discussion, was read a second time. The Sale of Spirits Bill passed through Committee. The Police Improvement (Scotland) Bill was read a second time. The Queen's Prison Discontinuance Bill and the Crown Private Estates Bill were read a third time and passed.

HAMSTEAD HEATH.

Lord CHUMSFORD moved the second reading of the Leases and Sales of Settled Estates Act Amendment Bill, the object of which he stated to be to meet a case of injustice—that of Sir Thomas Mervyn Wilson, lord of the manor of Hamstead, who, by the Act now in operation, was prevented from exercising his right, as tenant for life of an estate in that neighbourhood building at the south-eastern corner of Hamstead Heath.

Lord LINDSEY strongly opposed the bill, which was supported by Lord Cranworth, the Lord Chancellor, and the Marquis of Clanricarde, and was read a second time.

THE SLAVE TRADE.

Sir R. RUSSELL moved the second reading of the African Slave Trade Treaty Bill, saying a few words in commendation of the conduct of the American Government in entering into the convention which the bill legalised.

NIGHT-POACHING.

On the report of amendments of the Game Laws Amendment Bill a division ensued, in the course of which the Earl of Derby expressed a hope that the bill, which had been extended to Ireland, would not be opposed in the House of Commons; and the Marquis of Clanricarde stated that he did not anticipate any opposition in that House. At the suggestion of the Lord Chancellor the title of the bill was altered to a "Bill for the Prevention of Night-poaching."

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

RECOGNITION OF ITALY BY RUSSIA.

Lord PALMERSTON, in answer to Mr. Maguire, said that information had been received from St. Petersburg that the Russian Government had determined to recognise the kingdom of Italy, and a message had been sent to Paris for the purpose, but no intelligence had been received of the formal act of recognition. The Government had been informed that it was also the intention of Prussia to recognise the kingdom of Italy.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION.

Lord ECHTE moved that aid should be given for the extension of the practice of systematical gymnastic training, and for teaching military and naval drill, as now practised in the district half-time schools for orphans and destitute children, and in other schools for pauper children.

Mr. LOWE said the proposition was one which could not be entertained by the Government with a view to increasing the grants to schools from the public revenue.

The motion was negatived.

CHINA.

Mr. WHITE moved that it is the opinion of the House that the Government should direct the British authorities and commanders of her Majesty's naval and military forces in China to avoid any intervention beyond that absolutely necessary for the defence of those British subjects who abstain from all interference with the civil war now raging in that country. He urged that the relations of this country with China must occupy, ere long, the attention of the House; for, in fact, we were now waging a little war in that country, and if the policy of the Government was pursued it would grow into one of large dimensions. From all that was going on in China it appeared that England, in conjunction with France, was pledged to an offensive and defensive alliance with the Imperial Government. It was the fact that the Taipings were ready to come to terms with the Imperial Government, and they had such a respect for British power that this country had only to will that course and it would be adopted. He inquired who was to pay the expenses of the hostilities that were going on?

Sir J. PALK seconded the motion.

Mr. GREGGON opposed the motion, as he did not believe the Government were in any way censurable for the policy which had been pursued in China.

After some observations from Mr. Kinnaird and Colonel Sykes,

Mr. LAYARD said the Taipings were a mere band of marauders, who were unable and did not attempt to set up any proper Government. They were not a national party, and they represented no principle. Wherever the British appeared the inhabitants looked to them for safety and protection from the rebels. He justified the course taken by the Government. The Imperial Government of China represented order, as distinguished from the Taipings, who represented disorder. It was not intended to defend the Imperial Government, but only to defend British interests; while a moral effort was given to the party of order.

Mr. COBDEN contended that, while adequate protection was given to our merchants and traders, we should seek to avoid all contact—especially political contact—with the people; and he would withdraw from some of the treaty ports which were not necessary and advantageous to our trade, and concentrate our trade as far as possible.

Lord PALMERSTON was at a loss to know how it could be said that we were likely to drift into war with China while we were endeavouring to support the Government, consolidate its authority, and improve its finances. On the contrary, he believed that in assisting the present enlightened Prince to restore order as the law in the country we were doing that which would indirectly conduce to the welfare of the Chinese themselves and to the commercial interests of Great Britain.

After some further discussion, the motion was negatived, on a division, by 107 to 88.

THE KERTCH PRIZE-MONEY.

Sir J. HAY brought forward the subject of the delay in paying the prize-money due to the soldiers and sailors for the capture of Yenikale and Kertch, and moved that it was inexpedient that any further delay should take place.

Lord PALMERSTON stated that the delay was no fault of the Government, but arose from the difficulty in getting the returns and from certain questions of international law which had arisen and which were under consideration by the law officers of the Crown.

After an animated discussion, the motion was agreed to.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 9.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

CLERGY RELIEF BILL.

Mr. BOUVERIE having moved the third reading of this bill, Sir J. PALK assumed the measure, which he characterised as a monstrous one, as it amounted to the House of Commons a power never arrogated by the Pope in the most palmy days of Rome—that of relieving clergymen from obligations which they had voluntarily undertaken. He moved that the bill be read a third time that day three months. After some debate, this motion was carried by 98 to 80. So the bill is lost.

CHURCH RATES.

On the recommendation of Sir G. Grey, Mr. Newdegate withdrew his Church-rate Computation Bill.

SALE OF BEER BILL.

The second reading of the Sale of Beer Bill, the object of which is to extend the provisions of the Tippling Act, which now applies only to spirits, to the case of beer, and deprive publicans of the facilities for recovering debts in the county court, was carried, on a division, by 93 to 90.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

THURSDAY, JULY 10.

THE DIVORCE COURT.

The Marquis of CLANRICARDE asked the noble and learned Lord opposite (Brougham) whether he intended to postpone a bill which stood in his name for a second reading with reference to cases in the Divorce Court relating to the validity of marriage being tried by jury?

Lord BROUGHAM said he would proceed with his bill with as little delay as possible, but (as we understood) he did not think it would be during the present Session.

SALMON FISHERIES BILL.

The House then went into Committee on this bill, the clauses of which occupied their Lordships' consideration during the remainder of the evening.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE ARMSTRONG GUN.

Sir G. LEWIS, in reply to Mr. Osborne, stated that a gun of Sir W. Armstrong's construction had burst during the experiments at Shoeburyness in consequence (as he understood) of its having been exposed to too severe a test.

RECOGNITION OF ITALY BY RUSSIA.

Lord PALMERSTON, in reply to Mr. C. Bentinck, stated that, as far as her Majesty's Government was informed, the Government of Russia had recognised the independence of Italy wholly unconditionally, communications having previously taken place between the Governments of Russia, Italy, and France.

FORTIFICATIONS EXPENSES PROVISION BILL.

The House then went into Committee on this bill.

Mr. B. OSBORNE proceeded to move his amendment to the clause which gave authority to the Government to raise £1,200,000, that it be reduced to £500,000. The hon. member entered into a very lengthened exposition of our natural defences, and complained that there was no necessity for the enormous expenditure the House was called upon to vote. He denied the proposition of the noble Lord (Palmerston) that there was

any necessity for so extensive a preparation of defence, when a war with any other Power was chimerical; and he challenged the noble Lord to show any cause to support his views, and cited the reported opinions of Sir John Buxton, Sir De Lucy Evans, and Admiral Berkley, that it was impossible to deport an army on our shores. It was proposed to erect fortifications seventeen miles in length at one point, and that the batteries should contain 6000 guns, and that would involve the necessity of the employment of thirty men to each gun to make them efficient. How were the requisite number of men to be obtained? With regard to the works at Portdown, they had the positive evidence of Sir John Burgoyne that it was wholly unnecessary to construct these fortifications. The hon. member then proceeded to put a number of questions to Lord Palmerston and the Secretary at War relative to the financial position for the construction of the forts already agreed to, and whether they were now in such a state as to justify the expenditure that had taken place. He found the noble Lord had, during his administration, in the course of twelve years spent no less a sum than £293,000,000 in the protection of the country, and he now asked for a million and a half more. The noble Lord was a most expensive luxury (loud laughter). The hon. member then proceeded to resist the vote of the Government, and said they only contemplated an excessive and unnecessary expenditure.

Mr. BRUCE supported the views of the Government.

In the course of the discussion which followed, Lord PALMERSTON defended the principles of those fortifications, and denied the charge made against him of having, in his speech the other night, ridiculed free trade and the commercial treaty with France, and of having spoken offensively of their great advocate and author, Mr. Cobden.

Mr. COBDEN commented in severe terms upon the policy and opinions of Lord Palmerston, who, he said, was the author of this absurd notion of fortifications, and was almost the only sincere advocate of them in his Cabinet.

Upon a division, Mr. Osborne's proposition was defeated by a majority of 110 to 62.

The first clause of the bill was then agreed to.

The remaining clauses formed the subject of discussion during the remainder of the night.

Literature.

NEW NOVELS.

Two Lives. A Novel. By BLANCHARD JERROLD. 2 vols. Tinsley Brothers.

A *Loss Gained.* By PHILIP CRESSWELL. Smith, Elder, and Co. The art of the novelist is identical with that of the dramatist in the one great essential respect—the mirror must be held up to Nature. It will depend upon him who holds it for the truth or falsehood of the reflected scene. A cast in the eye, and the mirror at once becomes the distorting glass of the charlatan; a scowling brow, and straightway there is a crack over the polished, deceptive surface. But with a bright eye and an open heart, Nature will trouble the mirror with nothing less lovely and loving than the cheeriest smiles and the greenest fields, the fairest flowers and the pleasantest-purposed lips, the well-deserving and the rich reward. Who shall tell of the unseen canker by which a man sees so bitter a straining of truth in one direction of his gaze, whilst in every other quarter he shall see with "equal eye." That one name to a protested bill does not point to broad commercial dishonesty. Clarinda's fickleness is no warranty for universal mysoginism. Yet surely cracked shall be the mirror when turned to reflect the rays of Capel-court or Clapham-rise. Therefore with novelists, and especially with first books, it is always as well to accept certain conclusions only with reservations.

The two novels before us are so widely different that it is tempting to contrast them. The "Two Lives" is entirely French. "A Loss Gained" is purely English. The one conducts us through a period of twenty years; the other settles lives and destinies in half that number of months. Mr. Blanchard Jerrold revels in richly-suggestive scenes of exciting melodrama, whilst Mr. Philip Cresswell contents himself with provincial domesticity and gossip—a race ball, an elopement, and one sudden death. Nervous people might shudder over the chance of a dream of Mr. Jerrold's pages; others might say of Mr. Cresswell's that they had lived through them all. "Two Lives" is as fresh in incident as any readers need desire. "A Loss Gained" is built up with the oldest machinery. But neither writer for one moment succeeds in keeping the reader in the dark as to the leading feature which makes up the conclusion.

In Mr. Sala's story, "The Two Prima Donnas," we had occasion to admire the exquisite sketching of Normandy village life. In Picardy Mr. Jerrold is no less successful. He, too, has a pattern of amiability and humility in the person of a good old curé. In addition there are various characters, many of whom are subsequently met at Paris and elsewhere. The period is the "three days" of July, 1830, and the Count and Countess de Capelle feel uneasy at political news. The citizen servants of the château throw stones, and the citizen servants are dismissed. A brawny blacksmith is admirably drawn. Blacksmiths are generally of a revolutionary turn. Their opinions grow red-hot with their iron. At the village alehouse they are authorities who pronounce opinions with the help of their gigantic fists, brought down upon the table at the right moment with the effect of thunder. Such a man is Edmond, the blacksmith of Beauregard. He would like to eat a cold King for breakfast, and a hot Emperor for dinner; and could possibly manage a Queen à la Reine to follow. He talks equality, sings the *Marie-Magdeleine*, frightens the landlady, and bullies a corporal of the Old Guard. But, strangely enough, when the Count's château is destroyed by fire, and everybody is burnt except the nurse and little daughter, who escape, the blacksmith is the most active in rendering service. It is impossible to suspect Edmond of incendiarism, although that crime is suspected; and, moreover, several witnesses swear that conspicuous amongst the crowd were two strange men whose features were concealed by two black masks. All legal endeavours to elucidate the mystery fail.

It is with the fortunes of the little girl saved, Mademoiselle Henriette, that the story deals. The nurse, through all kinds of difficulties, reaches Paris, and but little trouble is found in establishing the identity to the apparent satisfaction of her father's two brothers, Sébastien and Jules, who are great schemers in every variety of scrip, and in the various swindles and jobberies which distinguished the reign of the Citizen King. The brothers are skilfully contrasted. There would be no particular relish in fancying M. Sébastien a good imitation of a knave; and charitable people would consider M. Jules of the same type, but happily toned down by the fool. An Aunt Alix figures largely on the scene. Although in no way a reflection of Mr. Mark Tapley, she will insist on being jolly under the most adverse circumstances. M. Sébastien has a son, who is brought up on rigid principles; but how he agrees with his pretty and wealthy cousin—how the uncles like or dislike the idea of a marriage, and the fortunes of the many people hovering round the "two lives"—shall not be divulged here. Although, as we have said, it needs no sibyl to discover one terrible event, which influences all the rest, it would be unfair to deprive the author of the chance of a reader's carelessness or density. It is not for its story only that this work will be admired. Throughout are interspersed touches which build up character, and original character; political passages which denote an acute thinker as well as a hearty philanthropist; and fragments of history which, though frequently erring in being too picturesque, are yet of the genuine stamp, and possess that vitality which does not live at the bottom of every well.

Mr. Cresswell's "Loss Gained" is a one-volumed story of a very different stamp. Mr. Jerrold gives a brace of revolutions, whilst here we have not so much as a mill riot or a prize-fight. He settles his story at some small Manchester called Ormiston, deriving its name from the River Orme. From this, and the surrounding country, every kind of character is easily drawn, and the author has selected the habitual types and strung their adventures and fortunes together with more than average ability and knowledge of the world. There is the "old family," with no money to speak of, and a pretty marrigeable daughter. Contrasted are the Mill-mushrooms, with the son, a gay, handsome, dashing captain of yeomanry breaking many hearts perhaps because he possesses none of his own. There is a charmingly wicked and darling Nora, and her elder sister Jane, who is regularly "put upon." Also a somewhat cubbish kind of a cousin Luke, who consoles himself for disappointment by resolving to "get on" in the world. Fancy an elopement which from the

first has been looming in the last chapter, and a marriage which was scarcely expected, and the kind of story told by Mr. Cresswell will be known at once. The style is generally easy and graceful, and the chapters seem to follow as easily as the life we lead. The character of Nora is skilfully handled. Would space permit, we should like to tempt the reader on to more by a specimen of how that young woman gradually developed into a fine lady; and also the curious scene between the sisters, and the three admirable verses which grace the conclusion of the volume. But Mr. Cresswell should guard against one ludicrous error. English people are no longer accustomed to such nonsensical salutations as "Good Morrow." On meeting a friend it is permissible to say "How do you do?" to a lady, or "How are you?" to a gentleman; and there are many ways by which the nervous, the inventive, and the adventurous manage to avoid the hypocrisy altogether. But "Good Morrow" is ever associated with "I f**kin's!" "Marry come up!" and other linguistic quaintnesses which distinguished the period of Good Queen Bess. Mr. Cresswell commits far too much conversation of that kind.

The pictures of life in these two novels are anything but flattering to human nature. Mr. Blanchard Jerrold is understood to have passed many years in France; but it is difficult to imagine that, even had he commenced with his story in 1830, he would have had time to have hit upon such a collection of scoundrels as he describes. As every scoundrel has his virtuous victim, of course there is some slight relief from blackguardism in "Two Lives," but the majority are a dangerous crew, and suggest the idea that the author is not constitutionally in love with Frenchmen. Even the lively Aunt Alix herself must be confessed the soul of gaiety only because she has no soul or heart of any kind. Mr. Philip Cresswell lets society down in a different manner. He is unused to the murdering or swindling moods, but contents himself with depicting money-schemers, proud paupers, brainless boobies, manoeuvring mammas, petrifying papas, and flirts and jiltas of both sexes and all sizes. And when the flirted and the jilted immediately take up with other "lovers," just as if they were either accustomed to the process or deserved it, he calls it "A Loss Gained," in the coolest possible manner. As far as his strength goes, he is cynical enough. It is hard to say who is best off in this world, he says. If prosperity be no test of merit, how shall we estimate the value of things? Or does it all come to the same—is everything merely equal in the end? And when Fortune is kind to a most mean-spirited parson, who becomes a Dean and marries Wealth, we are told that he ultimately got everything he wanted, as good people always should in this world. We suspect that Mr. Cresswell is a disciple of a new system of philosophy which likes to see Vice triumphant and Virtue unrewarded. It may be bitter balm for some secret sorrow or consciousness of cold neglect.

TRAVELLERS' LITERATURE.

The Railway Traveller's Handy-book of Hints, Suggestions, and Advice before the Journey, on the Journey, and after the Journey. Lockwood and Co.

London and its Environs. A Practical Guide to the Metropolis and its Vicinity. Illustrated by Maps, Plans, and Views. Edinburgh: A. and C. Black.

Before the oft-mentioned country cousin sets out for London he would do well to consult the "Handy-book for Railway Travellers," unless, indeed, he walks, or comes by some other conveyance. As frequently happens with little guides of this class, after reading it through, the reader says, "Why, I know all this!" and so he does. And so does everybody know that the bread, the salt, and the cork-screw are most important articles at a picnic, but at one-half of the picnics which take place the articles not to be found are bread, salt, and corkscrews. Everybody knows they should be there, and everybody forgets them. A very little observation will convince the observer that the railway traveller is always forgetting something, not for want of knowledge, but from defective memory or want of system. Most important hints may be picked up from this manual, and useful information of all kinds. The style is lively, the page, abounding with anecdote as well as advice, and never losing sight of the ridiculous. For the railway traveller who has mislaid his purse or his ticket, who cannot extricate his umbrella, or forgets his own luggage, is one of the most ridiculous sights conceivable. To avoid annoyance of all kinds, seek the "Handy-book."

Once arrived in London, another Handbook is wanted. Messrs. Black, of Edinburgh, supply it outwardly described as "International Exhibition Guide," a tricky title, scarcely worthy of the trade eminence of the publishers. Four hundred closely-printed pages and two large maps seem to promise all that can be desired; but we fear that at present the work is in a very early stage. The labour of compilation is necessarily great, and it must be admitted that the range of the present work is on a goodly scale, and apparently complete. We do not pretend to have read it through with that care which we should bestow on Tennyson's last, or the new number of Dickens. But yet, in simply turning over the pages, as the phrase runs, we have detected many blunders of an inexcusable kind, and may reasonably conclude that many more exist. For the benefit of the next edition we will point out such errors as we have found.

Of Whitehall we are told (p. 57) that "the architect designed a magnificent palace, to cover twenty-four acres, which if completed would have been the glory of the metropolis; but only the existing banqueting-house was erected, and, fragment as it is, this building is a masterpiece in the Palladian style." Lower down in the same page we come to, "In 1691 a fire consumed the greater part of the palace, and six years afterwards the rest (except the banqueting-house) was destroyed by a like cause." It is evident that one of these pieces of information must be wrong. At page 68, Edward Prince of Wales, called the Black Prince, is described as son of Richard III. instead of Edward III. There is no such thing as a "system of universal penny rate" of postage, as described at page 125. The old Royal Exchange was certainly not burnt down in January, 1838: we believe it was some time in 1836. The Surrey Gardens are not in the Kensington-road, nor are they, by-the-way, in the Kennington-road; and Canterbury Hall is not in the Westminster-road, Southwark. The Westminster-road may be in the borough of Southwark, but we think not, although it must be close upon the boundary; but in any case Canterbury Hall almost touches the railway arch in the Westminster-bridge-road. The Foundling Hospital has a long notice. It was established by Thomas Coram, an intimate friend of Hogarth. "The painter became a governor and guardian, and presented not only the portrait of Coram, but others of his portraits—viz., 'The March to Finchley' (one of his best works), and 'Moses brought to Pharaoh's Daughter.' To call the "March to Finchley" a portrait is blunder enough, but it is also a blunder to have omitted the celebrated anecdote of George II. There is no "Crosby Hall" in Bishopsgate-street, as mentioned more than once; it should be "Crosby Hall." Sir Robert Peel neither lived nor died in "Priory Gardens." "Whitehall Gardens" is the usual name, but, strictly speaking, it might be "Privy Gardens." Of the Crystal Palace we read that "A striking feature of the interior is its great height—the nave rising to the height of 110 ft. above the ground floor and the central transept to the height of 74 ft." This can scarcely be, when the central transept is the highest part of the building.

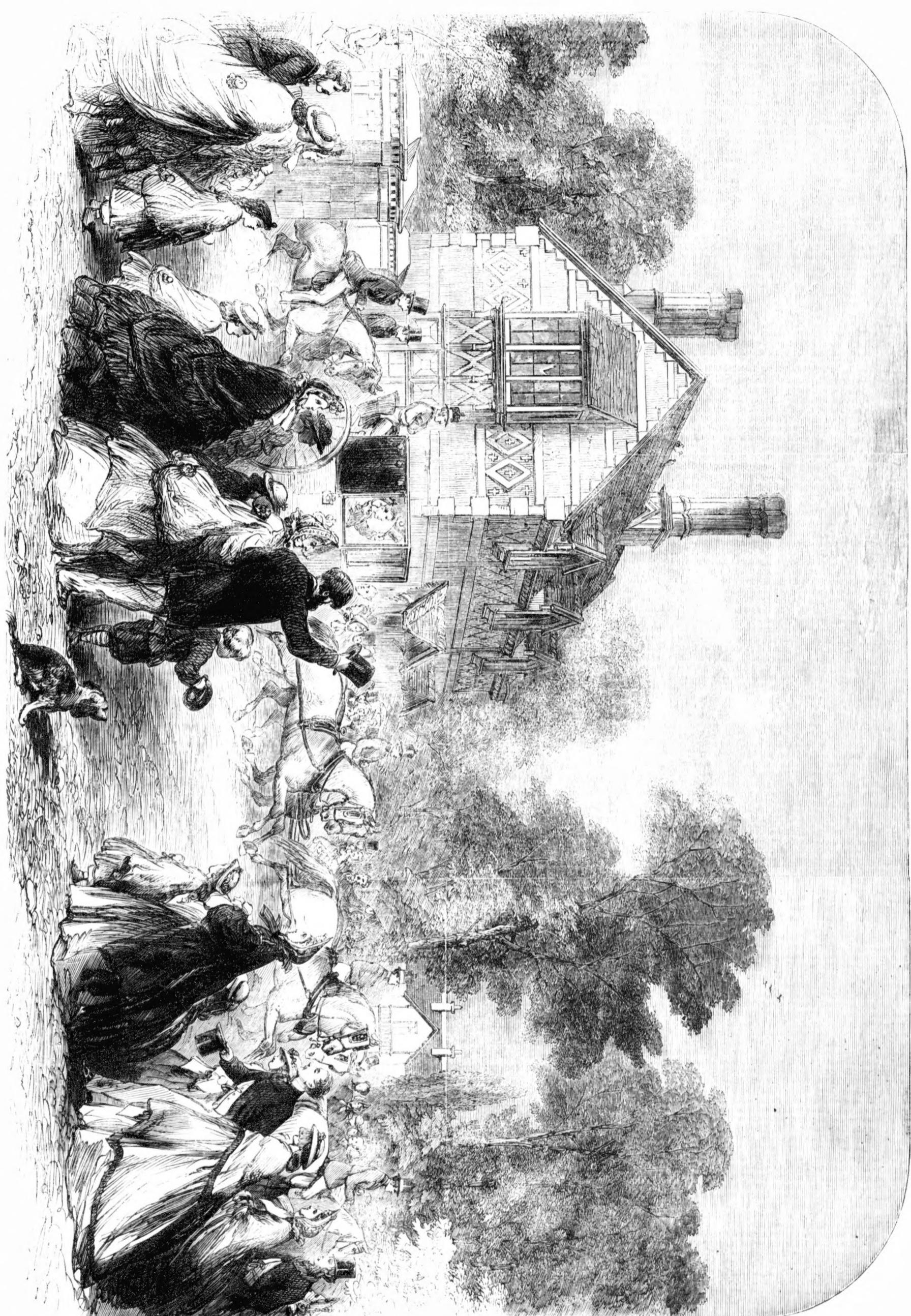
We repeat these are but casual discoveries, and it is impossible to doubt the existence of many more. More care in compilation and less haste with the printer might have made a commendable work perfect. As it is, an industrious but incautious person from Edinburgh appears to have been sent south to teach the Londoners all about themselves. No wonder our friend is occasionally incorrect.

NEW COMET WAS DISCOVERED on the 3rd at Marseilles, by M. Tempel, in the constellation of Cassiopeia. It is rapidly journeying towards the Polar star, and will soon, it is believed, be visible to the naked eye.

LETTERS FROM BERLIN state that the demonstration made by Prussia against Electoral Hesse, by putting two corps-d'armée on a war footing, will cost the Prussian Treasury 500,000 thalers.



MARRIAGE OF HIS GRAND DUCAL HIGHNESS PRINCE LOUIS OF HESSE TO HER ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCESS ALICE AT OSLO ON THE 12TH JULY 1862.



DEPARTURE OF PRINCE AND PRINCESS LOUIS OF HESSE FROM OSBORNE.

THE LATE ROYAL MARRIAGE.

THE SUFFITAL CEREMONY.

We are this week enabled to present our readers with some Engravings illustrative of the marriage of Prince Louis of Hesse with Princess Alice, an account of which appeared in our last Number. One of these Engravings—that representing the marriage ceremony—is made from sketches taken by special permission of her Majesty the Queen, and cannot fail of being highly interesting, especially to our fair readers.

For the ceremony an altar had been erected in the dining-room of Osborne House, covered in purple velvet and gold, and surrounded by a handsome gilt railing, the work of Mr. Robinson, of Newport, a local decorator. Beyond this not a single special arrangement was made for the ceremonial. The wedding of the Prince Royal, public as it comparatively was, was considered out of doors far too private for the interest which the public took in every event connected with the Royal family; but the sad bereavement which has so recently taken place made it imperative in this case that the utmost seclusion should be preserved; and it certainly was a strange and solemn sight for the few of the public who strolled about the Osborne road to see no indications of life about the park beyond a few servants, in the deepest mourning, passing almost stealthily up and down the avenue.

The bride—and the ladies will be grateful for the information—wore a dress of white silk of a new description, called "crystalline," with a single flounce of Honiton lace and a border of orange flowers at the bottom of the skirt. Nearly the whole of the company wore second mourning, and there was a singular absence of flowers, jewellery, or decorations of any description.

For the wedding breakfast a pavilion, 53ft. by 33ft., lined and elegantly decorated, and with a boarded floor covered with crimson cloth, had been erected on the lawn by Mr. Benjamin Edgington, and connected with the palace by a decorated corridor. The pavilion was so much liked that for several days the distinguished visitors had dined there—twenty on Saturday, thirty on Sunday, and upwards of forty on Monday. About seventy guests were at the breakfast on the wedding morning. A trophy of silk flags, with the Royal standard in the centre, had been put up, and the Prince of Wales's shield.

THE DEPARTURE FROM OSBORNE.

Shortly after the déjeuner the company dispersed, the Royal bride and bridegroom, attended by General Seymour, Lady Churchill, and suite, proceeding to St. Clare, the seat of Colonel Harcourt; and the Duke of Cambridge, the Cabinet Ministers, and the other parties present at the ceremony, returning to London by special train.

So little did the public seem to know about the event that, when the five o'clock express train to town was shunted at Basingstoke to allow the special Royal train with the visitors at Osborne to pass, it was almost impossible to make the passengers by the former believe the true reason. They had a strong impression that some accident had happened on the line, and were only reassured when they saw the Royal saloon carriage shooting past on the main line, with the visitors at the wedding seated in it, all in mourning.

ST. CLARE, ISLE OF WIGHT.

S. Clare, to which the Royal bride and bridegroom retired after the ceremony, is situated at Spring Vale, Isle of Wight, and is the residence of Colonel and Lady Katherine Vernon Harcourt. The Tudor style of Gothic architecture predominates in this castellated mansion, the grounds of which are laid out in the most approved modern style. A view of no common beauty from the keep-tower completes the attraction of this delightful seat. Spring Vale is about three miles from Ryde, and St. Clare was one of the places looked over by the Queen and the late Prince Consort when they were in search of a residence in the Isle of Wight. Lady Katherine Vernon Harcourt is a daughter of the late Earl of Liverpool, a nobleman who in his lifetime was especially honoured by the Queen's regard and friendship. When Sir Robert Peel was forming his Administration, the only stipulation made by the Queen on the construction of the Government was that the Earl of Liverpool should hold a high office in her household. "It is (says the *Court Journal*) perhaps quite as much from these old feelings of friendship for the family as on account of the beautiful situation of St. Clare itself that it was selected by the Queen for the honeymoon of the Prince and Princess." The stay of their Royal Highnesses was brief at St. Clare, as on Friday week they returned to Osborne. It is stated that the Prince and Princess intend to reside at Frogmore, and Clarence House, St. James's, which the Queen has placed at their disposal. They will thus be enabled to assist in filling up the blank in the Royal circle which the nation has not ceased to deplore, and to co-operate in assuaging the great grief which as yet "knows no retiring cobb."

Their Royal Highnesses Prince and Princess Louis of Hesse took leave of her Majesty on Tuesday, and embarked in the Royal yacht Victoria and Albert from Osborne pier in the afternoon for Antwerp, on a tour to the Continent.

THE TROUSSEAU AND WEDDING PRESENTS.

Her Royal Highness Princess Alice's wedding lace consisted of a deep flounce of Honiton guipure lace, composed of rose, myrtle, and orange blossoms, with a veil to correspond. The design was chosen by his Royal Highness the Prince Consort. A great variety of other articles were included in the Princess's trousseau, which were supplied by some of the leading modistes and tradespeople of the metropolis and Windsor. These articles included chases, bonnets, boots, shoes, linen, parasols, umbrellas, gloves, hosiery, perfumery, &c., and were all of the most elegant and tasteful character.

The following articles of jewels and plate were presented on the occasion:

By her Majesty the Queen—A very beautiful tiara of diamonds, composed of a rich bandane, with foliage spires, &c.; and a pearl and diamond brooch, with pearl pendant; the former designed and the latter chosen by his Royal Highness the Prince Consort. Jointly by her Majesty the Queen and his Royal Highness the Prince Consort—A set of three ornaments for the table, in silver, consisting of a candelabrum, composed of a group of boys supporting branches for nine lights, and two side candelabra for four lights each, the branches being so arranged as to be substituted by baskets for flowers or fruit, if required. By his Royal Highness the Prince Consort—A cross, two brooches, and a pair of earrings, all in very fine opals and diamonds. By his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales—A parure of very fine sapphires and diamonds, consisting of a necklace and brooch, a pair of earrings, and a bracelet. Both this and the preceding selected by his Royal Highness the Prince Consort. By their Royal Highnesses Prince Alfred, Prince Arthur, and Prince Leopold—Three keep rings, diamond, ruby, and emerald. By their Royal Highnesses Princess Helena, Princess Louise, and Princess Beatrice—A locket and pair of earrings in turquoise and diamonds. A diamond rose-sprig bouquet which had belonged to her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent. By his Royal Highness the Duke of Saxe Coburg and Gotha—A bracelet of gold with diamonds and enamel snap, containing a painting of the Duke's eye. By her Royal Highness the Duchess of Saxe Coburg and Gotha—A gold enamel tiara with emeralds. By the eight bridesmaids to her Royal Highness—A magnificent tea and coffee service of silver gilt and embossed, each piece bearing the monogram of the donors. By the Queen of Bavaria—A gold band bracelet with emerald and diamond snap. By his Royal Highness Prince Augustus of Saxe Coburg and Gotha—A bracelet with circle of turquoise, and in the centre A. E. I. in rubies and a diamond horseshoe. By her Royal Highness the Princess Augusta of Saxe Coburg and Gotha—A four-row garnet necklace and bracelets, with diamond and garnet snaps. By her Imperial Majesty the Empress of Russia—A bandane of thirty-five collets of fine large diamonds. By their Grand Ducal Highnesses the Prince and Princess Charles of Hesse—A large and very fine diamond stomacher. By his Grand Ducal Highness Prince Louis of Hesse—A pair of large and very fine top and drop diamond earrings. By their Grand Ducal Highnesses Prince Henry, Princess Anna, and Prince William—A blue enamel bracelet with three pearl and diamond stars. From the Maharajah Dhuleep Singh—A magnificent white silk fan mounted in carved mother-of-pearl and gold

sticks, the two outside ornamental with pearls and emeralds, and Princess Alice's cipher in rubies and diamonds. From his Majesty the King of the Belgians—A diamond and emerald linked bracelet. From her Imperial Highness the Grand Duchess Alexander of Russia—A gold heart-shaped locket suspended by a gold chain, on one side the miniature of the Grand Duchess Alexander (Constantine) of Russia set in diamonds, on the reverse the arms of the Grand Duchess. From her Royal Highness the Grand Duchess of Mecklenburg-Strelitz—Twenty-four silver-gilt worked spoons, a pair of sugar-tongs to match, and a sugar-sifter. From their Royal Highnesses the Duchesses of Cambridge and Princess Mary—A pair of engraved crystal claret-jugs, set in silver-gilt ornamental work. From their Majesties the King and Queen of Prussia—A gold bracelet with a centre of sapphires and diamonds. From the Crown Princess of Prussia—A handsome dressing-case with gold fittings. From the Marquis of Breadalbane—An electric gold-band bracelet, the centre composed of diamonds and rubies, with a large Oriental pearl in the centre; pendants to the bracelet of pearls and rubies to correspond. From the Countess of Fife—A large silver-gilt engraved casket, four angels in the corners, on the top a large cairngorm from Mar Forest.

A Bible and Prayer-book, bound in dark blue leather, with gold cipher, and arms of Princess Alice; on each side two gilt clasps; the books inclosed in cases of ebony and ivory. The Bible presented by the matrons and the Prayer-book by the maidens of the United Kingdom.

In addition, Princess Alice received various other presents, ornamental and useful; likewise some beautiful china services from the members of the Royal household and others.

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ILLUSTRATED TIMES.

SATURDAY, JULY 12, 1862.

TAKE CARE OF YOUR POCKETS.

IT is now the time of the great metropolitan harvest. Foreigners and provincials continue to arrive in London by shoals. Visitors call upon their friends residents in town, and require guidance and escort to places of public resort and amusement. The omnibuses fill to overflowing, the cabmen have become eclectic in their views as to fares, lodging-house-keepers, in humble imitation of Alexander, weep that they have no more rooms to let, and hotel-proprietors give full rein to their cupidity in the compiling of their bills. From east to west, from Greenwich to Fulham, a cry has gone forth, "Visitors are coming, let us fleece them!" And every dishonest avaricious person in the whole metropolis, from the capitalist hotel-proprietor to the ragamuffin who swears at you if you do not pay him for looking at you getting into a cab, has caught up the war-shout. The rapacity of the creatures is no less astounding than their apparent contempt for their own interests. Cab-drivers loiter about the streets for hours, disdaining honest fares, until they encounter some helpless victim who can be made the object of an extortion, which after all pays only about half as much as might have been expected from a succession of ordinary passengers. Contractors for refreshment calmly charge chance diners inordinate sums for such "extras" as peas, and wilfully blind themselves to the fact that the result is to drive away customers by the thousand. Lodgers who have occupied apartments for years, until they have almost become appendages to the houses they have inhabited, receive notices to quit in favour of expected tenants, who, if they come, will pay double or treble rent for a month or two and then leave the rooms to certain emptiness for half a year and to the chances of troublesome, dishonest, and occasional occupancy for an indefinite period afterwards. Not a day passes in which some flagrant attempt at overcharge is not successfully resisted; but these cases represent but a small number compared to that in which the extortion is carried out. Of all appeals possible, perhaps that to the moral sentiment of the plunderers would be the least available. It would be utterly futile to urge upon them that taking advantage of a social pressure for the purpose of pillage is to the full as mean and unjust as to steal a man's watch because he happens to be pent in a crowd or otherwise incapable of preserving his pocket intact.

It is, perhaps, equally vain to strive to awaken their intellects. Knaves are proverbially silly. The slightest glimpse of immediate benefit suffices to render them reckless of future loss or sacrifice. They might otherwise take warning from the commercial results of the insatiable greed of provincial hotel-keepers, whose folly and avarice have closed the fairest and most picturesque spots of the kingdom to the British paternal families. Who ever dreams of taking a wife and daughters on a tour in North Wales, Cumberland, or the Highlands? Where towns might have risen, a few dingy taverns proudly denominated "hotels" represent the sole and sufficient accommodation for the tourist. The high charges of the landlords have become a necessity to them if they wish only to live. Meanwhile English families, holiday-seeking in the autumn, betake themselves year after year to the same seaside towns, where competition flourishes, and where visitors of moderate means may find appropriate and economical residence. Else they go to the Continent, and dispense amid foreigners, wiser than their generation, or as yet not afflicted with the craving for unearned gold, the superfluity which might otherwise have been expended in their own native land.

There is but one remedy, and that is in the hands of the denizens of London. It becomes a social, not to say a moral, duty to expose and frustrate by every legal means every attempt at pecuniary imposition. It is useless to set about

this in a timid, half-hearted way. If a cabinman make a flagrant overcharge, invoke the police at once. Do not interfere by any recommendation to mercy. If compelled to summon him, be deaf to his appeals about his large family, his sick wife, or his dying mother, with one or more of which sentimentalities every one of his class is always prepared when summoned for rascality or ruffianism. His family will do better without him when in gaol: his wife has probably been thrashed into her malady when he was drunk on the proceeds of a like robbery; and he never gave a penny or a kind word to his mother in his life; else, which is more likely, his mother has been dead for years; he was never married, and he never had a child. While he continues a driver he is keeping an honest, deserving man who really has a large family in daily dread of a workhouse for lack of employment. If grossly overcharged at an hotel, lay a liberal remuneration on the table, give your address, and dare the proprietor to do his worst. If he attempt to detain your luggage as his security, go at once to the police court, or, if necessary, threaten an action. Or, if about to leave the district, pay the amount under protest, and sue for the excess afterwards. Above all, avoid as much as possible all places where overcharge is habitually and notoriously exacted. Do not purchase any of the miscalled "refreshments" sold to the unwary at the saloons of the theatres. Sacrifice a little foolish pride, and do not imagine all London is looking to see whether you give the boxkeeper a sixpence or a florin for showing you the seat for which you have paid. Where a public announcement is made for unlawful profit, of "no change given," go elsewhere and get it, after causing as much obstruction as you can by searching carefully through every pocket for coin of the exact amount, and by verbose appeals to the money-taker's sympathy. Do not commit the common error of protesting "purely on public grounds." It is nothing of the kind. The grounds are purely private and personal. You do not like to be swindled openly and to your face; and if you avow it, the sentiment does you no dishonour, which is not so with an untruth whether you beguile yourself into believing it or not. If you have a little trouble over the matter, never mind it. The pleasure will repay, for after once or twice you will find the liveliest possible gratification in bringing a rogue "to book." It is one of the wholesomest delights of which the properly-constituted moral and intellectual human system is capable. There is humour in it. It is a cheerful and exhilarating sight to see a supercilious bullying knave transformed into a whining sham-repentant supplicant. To effect such a change is a blessed deed; it does good to both parties, as well as to the outside world.

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

THE MARQUIS OF CHANRICARDE'S SECOND SON, to whom Lord Canning has left all his fortune, is to take his name.

LORD SEPTON AND SIR CHARLES RUSSELL have kindly taken the initiative in getting up a series of amateur plays at the Italian Opera with the object of relieving the distress in Lancashire.

AS THE COFFIN OF THE LATE GENERAL BRUCE was removed from the hearse a wreath was observed. These simple but significant words told its story:—"A last token of love and respect from Albert Edward and Alice."

MISTER SOTHERN-EASTCOURT is severely indisposed from the rupture of a blood-vessel in the head.

MAZZINI, in a formal address to the people of Italy, declares that the Government has impeded the march upon Venice and Rome, and he himself released from all obligation to wait the national action. He and his will press on without waiting for King or Parliament.

THE EX-QUEEN OF NAPLES, the Count de Trani, and a suite of twenty Italian Princes and Dukes, have passed through Lyons on their way to Germany, via Geneva.

GENERAL PRIM, the Commander-in-Chief of the Spanish forces late in Mexico, arrived at Southampton on Sunday in the Spanish war-steamer Don Antonio Ulloa. He proceeded at once to London.

THE COURT OF COMMON COUNCIL, London, has appropriated 200 guineas for a bust of Earl Canning to be placed in Guildhall.

THE KING OF SWEDEN is about to pay a visit to the capital of Denmark. He is expected to arrive in Copenhagen on the 15th of the month, and the city of Copenhagen is to give a splendid banquet in honour of the Royal guest and of its own Sovereign.

LETTERS FROM BRUSSELS represent King Leopold as getting every day weaker.

SIR THOMAS PHILLIPS, F.G.S., Vice-President of the Society of Arts, has been unanimously elected chairman for the current year.

FOUR THOUSAND MEN are urgently wanted for the Federal Navy, and in the whole of the New England States, the most maritime States of the Union, only thirty-nine seamen are found available.

A FIRE broke out on the 30th ult. in the large Government provision dépôt at Berlin, which was entirely destroyed. Several barges on the Spree were burnt. The amount of damage done is very considerable. A destructive fire has also just occurred at Marseilles.

MISTER J. B. WINSTANLEY, of Bannister Hall, High Sheriff of Leicestershire, is missing. A reward of £50 is offered for his recovery. When last seen (June 11) he was at Folkestone.

The Rigoletto, a satirical journal of Genoa, was seized on the 30th ult., for a caricature, in which Italy is represented parleying with the sentinel at the gates of Rome.

LORD BROUGHAM has brought in a bill to make juries compulsory in cases of petition for a declaration of legitimacy. They are compulsory in all other matrimonial questions, but were forgotten in this one.

MARSHAL THE DUKE OF MAGENTA and a party of distinguished officers of the French army on Saturday last made a visit to the Royal Hospital, Chelsea, and were engaged some hours in going over that institution and the Royal Military Asylum.

SIX MINERS have lost their lives by an inundation at Old Castle Pit, Lancashire.

THE REPORT that the Prince of Wales had purchased the pony mare of Mr. Mathews, which obtained the first prize at Battersea last week, is incorrect.

A HUMAN HEAD, which appeared to have been scientifically separated from the trunk, was found last week near the Irvingite Church in Gordon-square, London.

A BOY OF THIRTEEN, living at Hall, hung himself a few days ago because his father had refused him permission to visit a diorama in the town.

MRS. JANE PINDER, widow of the late W. Pinder, died at Rudstone Driffield, on the 27th ult., aged ninety-five years. She was the mother of 12 children, and has left 71 grandchildren, 119 great-grandchildren, and 3 great-great-grandchildren, having lived to see a progeny of 205.

JUST AS THE LAST MAIL STEAMER LEFT RIO DE JANEIRO the docks at that port gave way, and a most serious damage was the consequence.

THE COUNT DE CHAMBORD has arrived at Vienna with the Countess and a suite of thirteen persons.

THE DUTCH GOVERNMENT has presented a bill to the Second Chamber for the cutting through the Isthmus of Holland, and the amelioration of the navigable passages from Rotterdam to the sea.

NEWS RECEIVED FROM MONTENEGRO states that an important battle took place on Monday last near Spuz, in which the Turks, commanded by Abdi Pacha, were beaten.

A VERY BEAUTIFUL PULPIT is being erected in Westminster Abbey. Its position is on the north of the nave. The pulpit, which is octagonal in shape, is composed of carved yellow Mansfield stone and coloured marble, and is a mixture of the early English and French styles.

ILLUSTRATED TIMES.

THE UNITED STATES' SCREW-CORVETTE TUSCARORA, whose exploits at the recent one-six months since, in connection with the Nashville, excited so much interest, has again arrived at that port from Cuba.

THE FIRST ASCENT OF MONT BLANC this year has just been effected, made on the 26th of June by Mr. Matthews and Mr. Macdonald, members of the Alpine Club in London, and was perfectly successful, although it was of considerable difficulty. In the snow they had formed a series of steps at the foot of the mountain.

A GENTLEMAN, M. MATHIEU (de la Drôme), who filled no inconsiderable place in the French Republican Assemblies of 1848, affirms that he has discovered regular rules in the atmosphere precisely analogous to those of the weather can be foretold days, weeks, nay months, in advance, with certainty.

A SOLDIERS' INSTITUTE has been opened at Chatham. This is a kind of club provided with books and indoor amusements, a racket-court, a billiard-table, and skittles-alley. Admission costs one penny a week, and already 150 soldiers—one-fourth of the Chatham garrison—have put down their names as members.

A REPORT which lately emanated from Madrid regarding the renunciation of claims to the Spanish throne by Don Juan de Bourbon seems to have been well founded. In consideration of this act, it is alleged, the Queen states him in his rank and titles, and conveys to him the large forfeited sum of his father, King Charles.

THE MEN AND WOMEN IN THE PROVINCE OF VITEBSK, IN RUSSIA, are recently commenced wearing Polish coats and caps, as well as dresses and other ornaments expressive of their sympathy for the Poles. A decree of the government of Vitebsk has issued an order prohibiting the wearing of such articles, under pain of judicial proceedings.

THE DEATH OF MR. JOHN EDWARD ERINGTON, the distinguished engineer, is just announced. He was native of Hull, and, in conjunction with Mr. Leckie, was engaged in the construction of several of the important railway lines in the kingdom.

LATE YESTERDAY WHOLE FAMILY IN YORK narrowly escaped death from poison, in consequence of arsenic having been mixed in the salt and flour used for culinary purposes in the family. How the poisonous substance came to be mixed in the salt and flour is a mystery, and is the subject of investigation by the authorities.

PRINCE NAPOLION arrived at Spithead on Monday morning from the Thames in the steam-yacht Prince Jerome. He began landing, and, after passing along the squadron at Spithead, left at 10:30 a.m. for Cherbourg. Previous to leaving, his Highness paid a visit to the Warrior, iron-cased.

THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

FOUR months ago Mr. Charles Ross, who superintends the Parliamentary reporting staff of the *Times* newspaper, presented to each of the members of the House of Lords and the House of Commons a copy of a book which, with great labour and at considerable expense, he had got up and printed, intituled "The Parliamentary Record," being a compendious record of the acts and proceedings of both Houses—in short, an abridgment of the journals. This little book I noticed at the time, and awarded to it unqualified praise, as meeting a want felt not only by the members of both Houses, but by all Parliamentary agents, editors of newspapers, periodical writers, and, in short, by everybody who wants to know what Parliament has done.

Mr. Ross, in compiling this book, had no thought of publishing it annually at his own expense, but merely wished to call the attention of both Houses to the want, which is extensively felt, and to show how it could be supplied. Mr. Bouvier moved for and obtained a Committee of the House of Commons to examine into this matter and report thereon, and I am happy to inform your readers that this Committee has so far sanctioned Mr. Ross's design as to recommend that his plan be tested, and that £300 be granted for the expense of preparing, printing, and delivering 1200 copies of such a work—I suppose this means of such a record of the Parliamentary proceedings of 1862. Taxis was an immense dead of opposition to this plan. Routine and use-and-want frowned upon it as an innovation, and red tape turned pale at the suggestion; but common sense prevailed, the Committee sanctioned it, and I trust that the House will promptly adopt the report of the Committee.

A member of Parliament of twelve years' standing has slipped away from us almost unnoticed. I allude to Mr. Herbert Watkin Williams-Wynn, the member for Montgomeryshire. He was thrown from his horse and was so seriously hurt that he died in a few days. He was the brother and presumptive heir of Sir Watkin Williams-Wynn, the wealthy Baronet of Wymnstay, and member for Denbighshire. The deceased was not a very constant attendant at the House, and I do not remember that I ever heard him speak.

Whilst there is life there is hope. At the time I am writing Mr. Soheron-Escourt is, I believe, living; but his life hangs on a thread. Mr. Soheron-Escourt was Home Secretary in Lord Derby's Government. I do not believe that there is a man in the House more respected than Mr. Escourt. Indeed, he is so courteous and kind that it is impossible not to respect him. He has represented North Wales since 1841.

The "Club of True Highlanders" are to hold their annual games at Beaufort House, Brompton, on the 15th and 16th inst., when the usual Scotch exercises of tossing the caber, putting the stone, racing, dancing, &c., will be gone through. These games are commendable, as they at the same time promote Christian charity and develop muscular Christianity—both very desirable objects. To be sure, there will also be bagpiping, which is not by any means a desirable thing, at least to my "Sassenach" ears; but, then, tastes differ. Besides, there is no good without some intermission of evil, and in this case the good greatly overbalances the evil. So success to the "True Highlanders" and their games!

THE LITERARY LOUNGER.

THE MAGAZINES.

Blackwood is very dull this month, save in its principal serial story "Salem Chapel," which is working up to a melodramatic pitch, and is becoming almost "sensational." This is new ground for the tragedian author, and the analysis of the passions which she is now creating is very different brain-exercise from the description of quiet life and northern scenery by which she has hitherto won her fame. The ordeal is a trying one, and, though one cannot say that she breaks down under it, one cannot help thinking how differently George Eliot, to whom these stories were by some attributed, would have handled the subject. The "Caxtoniana" are by no means so good as usual—trite in theme and weighted with commonplaces. "Across the Channel" is a description of life in Germany to the passing traveller which might have been amusing some years ago, before everybody travelled, but the suggestions and experiences of which are now *rocco* and old-fashioned in the highest degree. "Institutions, Great and Small," is an art-review, impartially and cleverly done; and there is an essay on "David Wingate," the collier, with extracts from his poems.

The *St. James's* has two or three noticeable papers—one on "German Gambling Houses," a trite subject, but somewhat freshly treated. A suggestion that Shakespeare might have been a sailor, not carried through, indeed, but smart and well supported with quotations; and a poem, "Sir Baadwin," by Mr. Buchanan, the ring of which is Tennysonian, but which is by no means devoid of original beauty, as the following stanza will prove:—

This is a place where mortals find not speech.
Save the small wrinkled waves that crawl the beach,
All is still as death:
I hear my heart against my ribs of stone
Like torn prisoned lark make constant moan;
My slow and frozen breath
Thrills like an echo thro' the silent spot;
My shadow seeks my feet and moveth not.

The "Experiences of a Real Detective," as related in the *Sixpenny Magazine*, are really by no means bad. They are Bemmison-Wilson Collins, it is true, but they have plenty of interest, well sustained, and a satisfactory denouement. It would be difficult to conceive a set of verses worse than those called "The Botanist" in the number.

The *Exchange* has two articles somewhat foreign to its severe commercial character. One is a highly laudatory sketch of Earl Canning; the other a very well-digested and impartial review of the picture-galleries in the exhibition.

Two periodicals running in the same groove are *Kingston's*

Magazine for Boys and Every Boy's Magazine. Both seem capably conducted, and likely to be prime favourites in holiday hours. We take exception, however, to the sarcasm of the following description:—

Come out from the briar-and-mortar city, and wander in country lanes and beside rippling streams, and listen to the voices of Nature in *my son's days of joy*. All the mirth and merriment, and healthiness, life—a man in the full vigour of life. *I am a humorist again.*

Any one wishing to see how easily any peculiar style of writing can be imitated and vulgarised should read the "Last Coquette of Italy Caprice," a story in the present number of *Bentley's Miscellany*. The style unavowably imitated is that of the author of "Guy Livingstone," and it is highly amusing to see how the paste can be made to resemble the diamonds. Of course the action lies in high society; of course the actors have very aristocratic names, with that dash of the familiar which aristocracy delights to give itself ("Bertie Erolle" the hero is called—Mr. G. Lawrence); of course the heroine is perpetually "bathed in the golden radiance of the sunlight"; of course her laugh always "rings out merrily and merrily"; of course everybody talks French; and of course there are two playing at cards, one of whom says, "You break the King." Of course the hero comes to a frightful grief (he is drawn going off to save men from a wreck) a proceeding (at the maddest and most quixotic kind, under the circumstances); of course he has a miniature round his neck with a hair chain; and of course the heroine, in repartee, rings herself on his dead body, and intones a speech beginning "My love! my love!" This is all very cheap, and not very honest, but there are many with whom it would pass current for the real coin. One thing, however: Mr. Lawrence is always accurate in his quotations. He would not have written "Sweet bells, harsh and jangled, out of tune," as does the Bentley writer, meaning "Sweet bells jangled, out of tune and harsh." The same number contains many curiosities, the continuation of Mr. Ainsworth's "Lord Mayor of London," and a most exquisite poem, signed "Biceps," called "Resting on our Oars," from which I must quote two stanzas:—

She, our light, before us shining,
With her fair face to set,
To us, but beyond us glazing,
Never yet our eyes have met.

The delicious rhythm of this verse is perhaps surpassed by the elegance of its grammar, but the next has only its pure poetical merits to recommend it:—

Young Tremain, why doth he gaze so?
Gaze into her very eyes?
Does she see him? Does she heed him?
Does she hear his pleasant sighs?

The most interesting paper in *Fraser* is the conclusion of the gossip about "Editors and Newspaper Writers of the Past Generation," which this month, among others, treats of Lord Campbell, Sir L. E. Thringham, Horace Twiss, and W. F. Delane.

THE THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

Since my last writing, the ST. JAMES'S controversy has been helped on by the publication of a letter from Mr. Milbank, the proprietor of the theatre, who supports Miss Heriot's statement, and is vehemently angry with Messrs. Phillips and Vining.

"The Dead Heart" has been revived at the ALBEMARLE, and Mr. Robson has reappeared in "The Porter's Knot" at the OLYMPIC.

The following letter is self explanatory. I need only remark that painful practical experience makes me confirm my friend's statements; but I must confess that I had not his luck, and that I paid the half-crown which a boxkeeper at the Royal English Opera demanded of me for the loan of an opera-glass or a light during the *Pyne and Harrison régime*:

My dear Lounger,—An evening or two since I visited the theatre, in company with a young friend, a lad just returned from a five years' cruise. I paid the usual "tip" to the boxkeeper, and received a bill from him. As we took our seats, a boy, who might have been an occupant of the box, offered me an opera-glass, which I declined. He offered one to my friend, who in a juvenile wry took it, noting it for, perhaps, five minutes, as so many people with toys. During the performance the box door was rattled at, and the boy-guest got up to open it, thereby letting a little into the way of the *Pyne* (or *Pyne* as he entered to show in a party). The boxkeeper pushed the boy roughly out of the way, at the same time calling him a fool, with the addition of an oath audible enough. Ladies were in the box.

At the end of the third act I and a friend wished to walk into the lobby for a few minutes to chat with our friends, for it was a "first night," when everybody knows everybody. I told my young friend to return the boxkeeper the glass, which he did. I said, "We shall return immediately." "Will you, please, pay now for the opera-glass?" "Certainly," I replied, "how much?" expecting to be let in, in the *Pyne* style, at a price, for the usual shilling. "Two shillings and sixpence, sir," was the reply.

I need not add that I did not pay. The boxkeeper was certainly very civil, for upon my first Indians professedly instantly reduced his demand to whatever I pleased, and accepted sixpence, instead of the old shilling which I should have paid without demur.

Now, this is a new exertion in a theatre. A friend of mine, exhorting two ladies, tells me that at the same theatre he was recently mulled in five shillings by the same dishonest means. It is this kind of thing which drives families from the theatres to the entertainments, at which nothing of the kind is practised. I could say much more, but you can say it much better, and I hope you will.

Yours faithfully, CONGRAN.

P.S. I refrain from giving the name of the theatre, which I will reward if I find the demand repeated.

SHIPS OF WAR BUILDING FOR THE ROYAL NAVY.

IT may not be uninteresting to our readers to know that there are now fifty-two vessels of war building for the Royal Navy at the various Government and private dockyards, many of which are in a very advanced state for launching. These vessels comprise the following, viz.:—Six iron screw-ships, four iron-cased screw-ships, one iron-cased screw-topship, one iron-cased screw-sloop, two iron-cased troop-ships, four screw-sloops, five screw-corvettes, six screw-frigates, six screw-sloops, five screw gun-vessels, nine screw steam gun-boats, and three paddle-deck-hoppers, showing an aggregate of 1280 guns, of 23.50 horsepower, and 112,354 tons. The following are the names of the iron ships now under construction, together with the number of guns, horse power, and tonnage, and the place where building:—

IRON SCREW-SHIPS.

Ships.	Guns.	H.P.	Tons.	Port.
Achilles ..	50 ..	1251 ..	6679 ..	Chatham.
Aigincourt ..	50 ..	1250 ..	6621 ..	Birkenhead.
Hector ..	32 ..	890 ..	4765 ..	Glasgow.
Minotaur ..	50 ..	1250 ..	6621 ..	Brixham.
Northumberland ..	50 ..	1250 ..	6621 ..	Milwall.
Valiant ..	32 ..	890 ..	4663 ..	Milwall.

IRON-CASED SCREW-SHIPS.

Caledonia ..	50 ..	890 ..	4015 ..	Woolwich.
Ocean ..	50 ..	1900 ..	4145 ..	Devonport.
Royal Alfred ..	50 ..	890 ..	4645 ..	Portsmouth.
Royal Oak ..	50 ..	890 ..	4045 ..	Chatham.

IRON CASTED SCREW-CUTLASS SHIPS.

Prince Albert ..	12 ..	500 ..	2529 ..	Milwall.
Enterprise ..	4 ..	100 ..	993 ..	Deptford.

IRON-CASED TROOP-SHIPS.

Orient ..	3 ..	500 ..	2112 ..	Blackwall.
Tamar ..	3 ..	500 ..	2812 ..	Milwall.

As regards the other 33 line-of-battle ships and screw-steamer on the stocks, many of them are admirably adapted for conversion into shield-ships on Captain Coles' principle. The Bulwark, 80, at Chatham, the Impulse, 80, at Woolwich, the Robust, 80, at Devonport, and the Zealots, 80, at Pembroke, being in a very advanced state, they require only a comparatively small outlay to iron-plate them. The frigates Belvidera, 51, at Chatham, the Dryad, 51, at Portsmouth, and the Tweed, 51, at Pembroke, are also admirably adapted for conversion into armour-plated ships, as they would not require the removal of any decks, as would be the case with line-of-battle ships.

Of the other vessels in progress, three are intended to carry 36 guns; four, 22 guns; one, 21 guns; four, 6 guns; one, 5 guns; six, 4 guns; one, 3 guns; nine, 2 guns; and three, 1 gun each.

OCEAN CURRENTS.—Last year the officers of her Majesty's ship Nile performed by the colour of the water, while in the mid-Atlantic Ocean, that the ship was on the edge of the Gulf Stream; and, having actually brought the ship so that her bows were in the great ocean river while her stern remained in the ocean bank, thermometers were dropped from either place, and, in that short distance, of less than 250ft., a difference of 40deg. was read off from the instruments! The other fact is the crossing of the cold water of Davis' Strait beneath this warm ocean river!

THE INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION.

WATER-FILTERING APPARATUS.

As the means of purifying water are of the utmost importance to all dwellers in cities, and especially so to the denizens of London and the other large cities of industry in the United Kingdom, the several descriptions of apparatus exhibited for this purpose are deserving of special attention.

One of the most important divisions of class 10 comprises the various methods of filtration. As well as we can discover, each of these methods, as here exemplified, is serviceable in the attainment of a desired object, while each has its deficiencies. The use of carbon in different forms is the principal, as it is decidedly the most philosophical, means in favour with the ingenious gentlemen who dispute among themselves the honour of having made the best discovery for the purification of water. There are, we believe, more than 100 patented inventions for this object, there being gradually a porous and tasteless substance in nature that has been enlisted in the service; but for the most part they have been applied to charcoal. This charcoal is usually compressed and reduced solid; the reason given for such a practice being the tolerably obvious one that the finer the pores through which the water passes the more complete will be the filtration. There is, however, something to be said on the other side of the question. The pores in a hard mass will in a greater or less time become clogged, and there is no way of cleansing them. Granules of wood charcoal have been found to offer an equally effectual resistance to impurities, in spite of the very plausible theory in favour of a consolidated block of carbon; and the advantage of the loose particles is, that they can be cleaned in the quickest and easiest manner by a simple rinsing. Herr Dahlke and Mr. Atkins are the two chief upholders of the system of filtering through solid lumps of activated charcoal; and though their respective processes differ in appearance they are essentially and in principle the same. The very fact of silica being employed to mould the purifying substance into shape strikes us as an objection. We believe that for a long period the concession of the charcoal was a problem that taxed the ingenuity of the leading physiologists who gave their attention to the subject. Several bituminous compounds which were tried were found inadequate to bind the grains together, till at last somebody thought of the silica which is now generally adopted, the parent for its use having expired, and which is a mixture of gas-werke. Now, if it be admitted that animal charcoal is the best agent for ridding water of the foreign matter, chiefly organic, which contaminate its properties, it must be also conceded that any admixture with this charcoal, whether of lime, pitch, or other ingredients, is, in strict point of fact, adulteration. This is another argument in behalf of the granulated carbon, which performs its office best "mixed with basic matter." Mr. F. H. Mitchell, who exhibits filters constructed on a plan which embodies the employment of the loose material, closely resembling a very coarse description of gunpowder, illustrates the whole subject of filtration by a very interesting display. To show that water containing deleterious matters is not of necessity foul in appearance, a glass jar of a most translucent fluid is exhibited as the product of a well in great request among Londoners, by whom it is generally supposed to yield the purest, as it certainly is the brightest, water that ever flowed from fountain or spring. This deceptively sparkling draught is, we are assured, absolutely porous; and the worst of the affair is that there is no getting rid of the deadly impurities by any process of filtering. Not even Mr. Danckell's apparatus will fit water of lime in any of its phases; and the impudic abomination, which looks so fair and so inviting to the parched visitor, is loaded with the phosphates of a graveyard. But, if this eminent hydraulic engineer can do nothing to purify the cup of certain noxious influences, he can at least tell us how to detect their presence; and his stand at the exhibition contains a complete series of chemical tests, which may be obtained at a very small outlay. Mr. Spencer shows a distinct and highly original plan of filtration. The gentleman is the discoverer of electric-metallurgy; and his magnetic system of purifying water has been adopted in the public supply of several large towns. The iron ore, which one sees clinging in puffs of fine dust to a large magnet in Mr. Spencer's stand, has something more than the mechanical action of charcoal upon organic matters; though we are unable to say whether or not it has any neutralising or transforming effect upon the lime with which some water abounds. The result, by-the-way, in the case of bog-water has not been altogether satisfactory. Two bottles are displayed, one filled with the foul fluid in its normal state, and the other containing a filtered specimen. This last, however, has a greenish deposit, showing that the purifying process was by no means complete. A third bottle, holding a perfectly colourless liquid, labelled as water from the iron of a well at Bremen, dated in 1808, and ever since exposed to light, is far from dirty. It does not exhibit the slightest trace of vegetal life, and is as clear as rock crystal.

DEATH OF DUKE PASQUIER.

ONCE AGAIN the god of war has just paid the debt of nature. On the night of Saturday, the 5th inst., there died in Paris, at the extraordinary age of ninety-six, a lawyer and statesman who had lived under three Bourbons, one Monarch of the House of Orleans, two Empires, and two Republics; nay, if we acknowledge Louis XVII. and Napoleon II. as Sovereigns of *fact*, we must add another King and another Emperor to the dynastic rolls.



THE RIFLE-SHOOTING CONTEST AT WIMBLETON.—SHOOTING AT THE "RUNNING BEER."

THE NATIONAL RIFLE-MATCH AT WIMBLEDON.

THE shooting at Wimbledon has been continued during the past and the present week with unabated vigour, notwithstanding that the weather has on several—indeed most—days been anything but favourable. The principal contests have been for the Queen's prize, for the St. George's challenge vase, the match between the Lords and Commons, one between Oxford and Cambridge, and another among representatives of the several public schools—Eton, Harrow, Rugby, and Marlborough. The struggle for the Queen's prize was concluded on Tuesday; the result will be found below. In connection with this matter considerable irritation has been caused by the rifles of some of the competitors not standing the test of the "wing-plug" used to gauge rifles at Enfield. After the first stage of shooting, the rifles were handed in to be examined, when a considerable number were found not to admit the wing-plug by which the area of the bore is measured; and, as the smaller the bore the greater is the chance of accuracy in firing, all rifles that did not answer the prescribed conditions were at once set aside and their owners disqualified from taking further part in the contest for the Queen's prize. Among those thus debarred from further trial is Mr. E. Ross, champion shot of England, and his case, and that of most other sufferers, is peculiarly hard, as the rifles they used were supplied by the London Armoury Company, and were believed to be constructed in exact accordance with the Enfield standard. This the company declare was the case, and it is difficult to understand how the variation can exist, unless the testing apparatus used at Wimbledon and Enfield should in some way differ from that employed by the Armoury Company.

THE SENATORIAL MATCH.

The competition exhibited peculiar liveliness on Saturday, and there was a large and fashionable attendance in spite of the disagreeable weather. The long-talked-of competition between the Lords and Commons took place on that day, when the Upper House, though they had not the advantage of the Lord Chancellor's shooting, proved the victors by a considerable score over the representatives of the more popular branch of the Legislature, their Lordships' representatives having scored 411 points to 349 made by the members of the Lower House. The champions of the Peers on the occasion were Lords Abercorn, Airlie, Bolton, Duncie, Londesborough, Lovat, Somers, Suffield, Vernon, Wharncliffe, and the Duke of Marlborough; while the Commons were represented by Lords Bury, Elcho, Grey de Wilton, and Grosvenor, and Messrs. Dilwyn, Forster, Leslie, Hastings Russell, Talbot, H. Vivian, and H. Wyndham. The best shot among the Peers was Lord Wharncliffe, who made 47 points; and Lord Bury proved himself the best of the Commons, having scored 46. When the numbers were finally announced, the Commons looked for a moment rather blank, but then, said Lord Elcho, "Well, let's give three cheers for the Lords;" and three hearty cheers were given, to which the victors made a responsive echo. "And now," added Lord Elcho, "let's give one cheer more for the licking we mean to give 'em next year." The Commons cheered accordingly; the Lords again responded, but this time a little derisively, and then they passed away from the firing-posts, Lord Elcho, in a semi-comic tone, remarking, "Sic transit gloria!" —

THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

The competition of the public schools also took place on Saturday. The Harrow boys carried off the prize shield; but when it came to shooting for Lord Spencer's vase, given to the best shot among the different schools, it was borne off by the young Earl of Eldon, the champion shot of Eton.

THE UNIVERSITIES.

The event of Monday was the match between Oxford and Cambridge Universities, eight representatives being sent to Wimbledon from each. There was not much rain during the earlier stages of the firing, but the wind was so strong that protecting screens of canvas were erected; and, partly to see the match to greater advantage, but partly, no doubt, with a view to obtain the shelter which these screens afforded, the competitors were at length so much encroached upon that it became necessary to clear the inclosure of all but its legitimate occupants. The champions of Cambridge inflicted upon those of Oxford a defeat at all the ranges, though in the first two the majority was little more than nominal; in the aggregate, however, Oxford was beaten by sixty-two,—precisely the same majority which the Lords obtained over the Commons on Saturday last. To this result Lieutenant Ross materially contributed; but Captain Deverell, of the Cambridge eight, made a score which was not equalled by any one either on his own side or on that of Oxford.

THE ST. GEORGE'S CHALLENGE VASE.

This vase, presented by Lieutenant-Colonel the Hon. C. H. Lindsay and the members of the St. George's Rifles to the volunteers of Great Britain, and of which we give an Engraving, is a work of art of unusual delicacy, and one



THE ST. GEORGE'S CHALLENGE VASE.

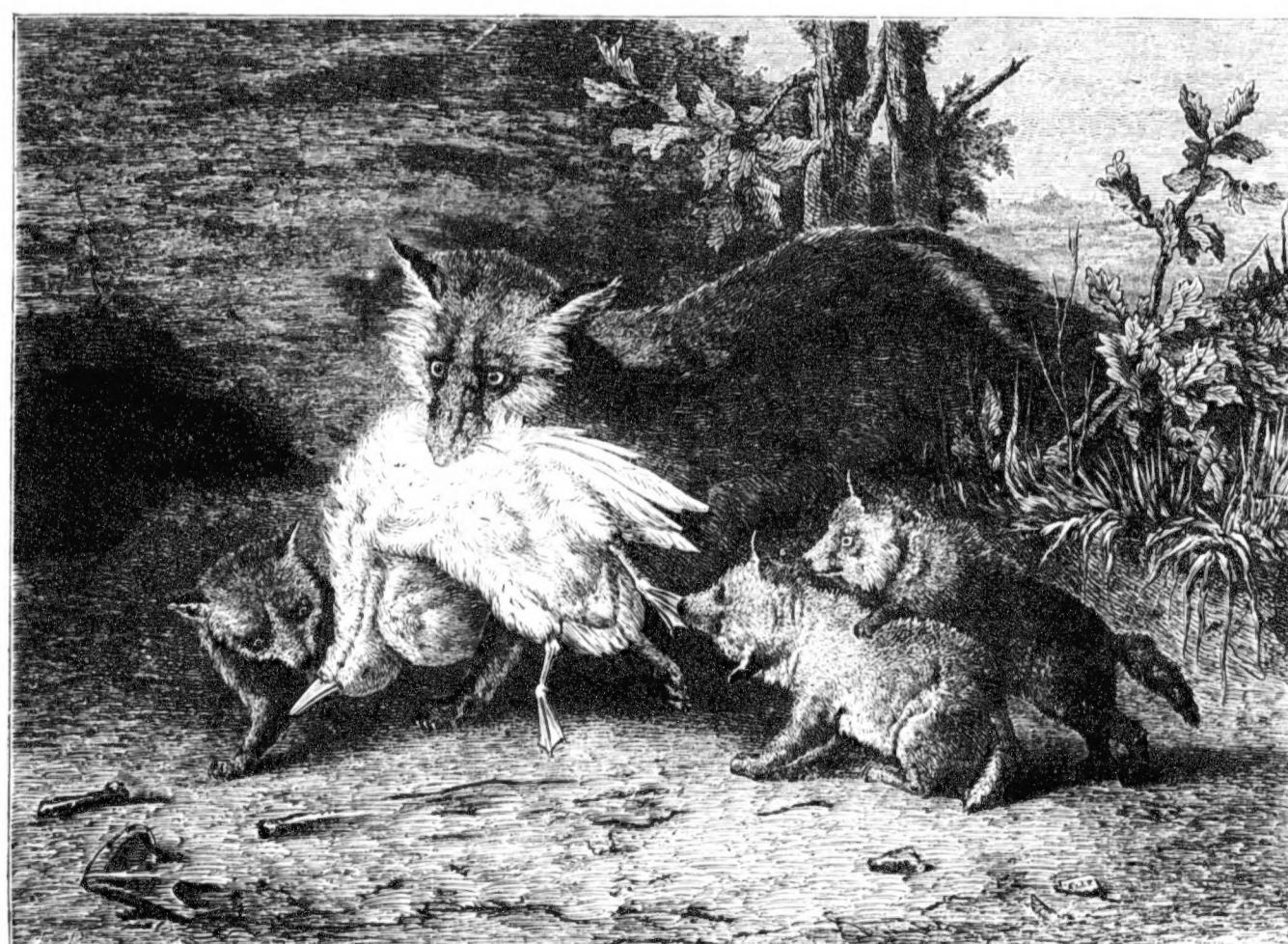
which seems to differ from the generality of prize trophies and step out, as it were, of the usual style of massive composition which has so greatly distinguished the English artists when called upon to produce their most important subjects. Colonel Lindsay has evidently not deemed it necessary for his purpose to require that the design for the vase should be upon a large scale, although the object in view is one which partakes of a national character. He has, on the contrary, with the assistance of the committee connected with the undertaking, together with the able counsel of Mr. Evan Ortner, decided that the chief point to gain should be delicacy

by dragons, represented in their most savage form, with out-spreading wings, and as if springing at St. George to avenge the conquest he has achieved over their fallen companion. The vase is of pure silver, which has an extremely rich appearance, owing to the absence of burnishing. The coats of mail upon the figures of St. George are in gold, as well as the helmet, horse's bridle, scabbard, lance, and other details, the tout ensemble of which produces a charming and novel effect. The crosses upon the breasts of both figures, as well as upon the shield, are in red enamel, and give an additional character to the whole. The block upon which the vase stands is a beautiful specimen of serpentine marble, upon which is placed a raised inscription in pierced silver lettering. This great prize, the value of which is 250 guineas, is open to competition annually.

The prize jewel, or Cross of St. George, which is also engraved, represents one of three which will be annually awarded to the three best shots in the contest. They were designed by Lady Lindsay. Two of them are in enamel, gold, and silver, and the third in bronze.

This prize was shot for by the best shots selected by battalions throughout the country, the contest exciting a very considerable amount of interest. The first day's shooting resulted in a tie at 30 points, between Mr. Leet, of the Queen's Westminster Volunteers, and Mr. Ferguson, of the 1st Inverness. This tie was shot off on Monday, when the result was as follows:—Mr. Ferguson, winner of the vase and gold jewel of St. George; Mr. Leet, winner of the silver jewel of St. George; and Mr. Hemery, 11th Middlesex, winner of the bronze jewel of St. George.

THE QUEEN'S PRIZE.
The result of the first stage of shooting for this prize is that the



REYNARD'S RETURN FROM THE FARM.—(FROM A PICTURE BY M. VERLAT.)

of outline combined with purity of style. Considerable credit is therefore due to Colonel Lindsay and the members of his regiment for the taste which has been displayed, and the opportunity which they have embraced in order to carry out their praiseworthy object.

The subject which has been chosen for the challenge vase is naturally confined to the legendary history of St. George's encounter with the dragon, which at that time was frequenting a certain marsh in the province of Lycia, and had put to flight all who attacked it, and had even destroyed many by its pestilential breath. According to the legend, the inhabitants of the city of Lycia were compelled to give the monster two sheep daily to appease its fury; but when the sheep began to fail they gave a sheep and a man together, and thereafter, casting lots, they gave it their sons and daughters, and the lot excepted no one. And, after nearly all the children of the citizens had been devoured, the lot fell upon the king's only daughter, and she was adjudged to the dragon. The king, Zevius, offered the people abundance of silver and gold if they would spare his daughter, but they answered furiously that their children were dead, and that he himself had made the law and must abide by it; and that, if he withheld his daughter, they would burn him in his palace with his whole family. And, after much entreaty, the King obtained from them the space of eight days wherein to bewail his daughter; and, on the eighth day, finding no remedy, he delivered her, clad in her Royal robes, to the people, and they exposed her to the dragon; and all the people looked on from the summit of the walls. And, as St. George was passing that way, he beheld her weeping, and he asked of her what she wept for? And she told him all, admonishing him that he should fly swiftly, lest he also should perish with her. Upon this the holy warrior exhorted her to take courage, and offered himself as her champion, to do battle with the dragon in the name of Christ; but she, on the other hand, entreated him to depart, for that she was unwilling he should be perilled with her. While they thus spoke the dragon raised his head above the lake, and St. George straightway mounted his horse, and, couching his lance, commanding himself to God, and fortifying himself with the sign of the Cross, attacked the monster and wounded him sore, and cast him to the earth. Then, drawing his sword, he cut off his head at a single blow.

The latter part of this wonderful story has been selected by Mr. Ortner for the basework of the vase, exhibiting, as it does, that particular crisis in the conflict where St. George has succeeded in piercing the dragon's side with his lance, but which has been shivered in two by a blow from the beast's paw, and, having drawn his sword, is in the act of giving him the coup-de-grâce. The life and spirit which Mr. Ortner has thrown into the group reflect considerable credit upon his accomplished hand, and the chasing is very perfect.

The figure upon the top of the vase represents St. George triumphant, resting upon his shield after his victory, with his sword across his shoulder and the head of the dragon lying prostrate at his feet. The bowl of the vase is not the least artistic part of the work, presenting, as it does, a peculiarly graceful outline, and being rendered very attractive by the prudent application of gold upon the trefoil reliefs, which give so much enrichment to the design. The vase is supported on each side

competition became confined to forty individuals, and that the following twenty gentlemen were entitled to receive one each of the twenty Whitworth rifles offered:—Walton, 17th West York, 43 (silver medal); Douglas, 26th Leicestershire, 41; Wyatt, 1st City of London, 43; Williams, 19th Middlesex, 43; Pixley, 1st Middlesex, 43; M. Smith, Victoria Rifles, 43; Edwards, 6th Suffolk, 42; Anderson, 22nd Middlesex, 42; French, 1st Warwick, 41; Porter, 22nd Middlesex, 41; Spratt, Liverpool R. B., 40; Dales, 28th Middlesex, 40; Cunningham, 18th Middlesex, 40; A. Smith, Edinburgh City, 40; Morris, 9th Middlesex, 39; Palmer, 36th Stafford, 39; Syme, 1st Lanark, 39; Sullivan, Liverpool R. B., 39.

The following were the second twenty entitled to fire for the Queen's Prize, second stage, with the twenty winners of Whitworth rifles:—Glover, 5th West York, 39; Winsor, 49th Stafford, 39; Shrewsbury, 3rd Bucks, 39; Simpkins, 1st Notts, 39; Jordan, 7th Worcester, 39; Richardson, 14th Surrey, 39; Bett, 8th Lincoln, 38; Thomas, 4th West York, 38; Allen, 12th Derby, 38; McLean, 4th Lancashire, 38; Lithgow, 47th Lancashire, 38; Hook, 3rd Devon, 38; Edeson, 3rd Derbyshire, 38; Kennedy, 4th Dumfries, 38; Ferguson, 1st Inverness, 38; Gee, 55th Lancashire, 38; Foster, 1st City of London, 38; Muriot, 4th West York, 37; Japies, 70th Lancashire, 37; Fuller, 1st Cambridge, 37.

The shooting for the second stage of the Queen's prize took place on Tuesday at ranges of 800, 900, and 1000 yards. At the greater of these distances it was hard to believe that men could really distinguish what they were firing at. A casual observer felt undergoing difficulty in the first instance in making out the target itself, and, when this point had been settled to his satisfaction, the bull's-eye looked to him like the mere black smudge. But, with all these obstacles, and with a light so strong and glaring as almost to dazzle the eye, results were obtained such as might be expected rather from machinery than from human vision and nerves. The Swiss competitors are said to have expressed their conviction days ago that there was no use in contending against such shooting as that made at Wimbleton, and to have packed up their rifles and gone home accordingly. The following were the highest scores made at all the ranges:—Pixley, 1st Middlesex (Victoria) Rifles, 41; Ferguson, 1st Inverness, 42; Williams, 19th Middlesex, 41; Norfolk, 13th Suffolk, 41; Gee, 55th Lancashire, 41; Anderson, 22nd Middlesex, 41; the scores made by the other competitors ranging from 29 up to 39.

By the result of this contest, which was maintained with the utmost spirit, it will be perceived that Middlesex has once more been crowned in its proud position of holder of the Queen's prize, while the Victoria Rifles have acquired new laurels. Mr. Pixley, the successful competitor, is by no means an undistinguished rifleman, having fairly earned his marksman's badge at Hythe last year, where he likewise won his sectional prize. He has further carried off honours in the shooting of his own company (No. 1) of the Victoria, besides obtaining a rifle offered by some private donor. A remarkable incident occurred in the course of the shooting. Mr. Martin Smith, one of the forty competitors, complained that he could make no score whatever with his Whitworth rifle, and intimated his intention of withdrawing from the contest. General Hay, who had sighted all the rifles himself, requested that he might be allowed to fire off the piece. He accordingly did so, and without apparent difficulty succeeded in making a bull's-eye at 900 yards.

OTHER PRIZES.

The programme of shooting on Tuesday embraced, besides the Queen's prize, second stage, Lord Vernon's prize, Messrs. Eley's prize, the Ruff Oaks, the All Comers, the Association cup, the second series of extra prizes, pool, and sighting targets. Mr. Eley's prize of £105 was won by Mr. Ross, Cambridge University. Score: 500 yards, 13 points, 5 hits; 800 yards, 11 points, 5 hits; total, 31. The following was the score for the Oaks:—Halsall, 2nd Lancashire, 49; Starke, Queen's Westminster, 43; Baker, 4th Gloucester, 42. First man receives one half the stakes; second, three-fifths of remainder; and third, remaining two-fifths. The shooting for Lord Vernon's prize gave the following results:—Halford, 1st Leicester, 53; being the winner of the first prize; and Messrs. Gill, 4th West York, and Turner, 18th Stafford, being at 49 each for the second prize.

MATCH BETWEEN ENGLAND AND SCOTLAND.

On Wednesday the great event was the international match between England and Scotland. In the first two stages, at 800 and 900 yards respectively, England was the victor, the score being—England, 298; Scotland, 261. The firing at 1000 yards was deferred in consequence of the unfavourable state of the weather.

THE "RUNNING DEER."

The deer target ran each day, to the intense amusement of the spectators, who congregated about him in large numbers, and the intense disgust of the disappointed marksmen, who paid their 2s. per shot with no other result than to miss the bull's-eye, or, worse still, to hit that forbidden spot the haunch, and so to fined a shilling. For those who wished to perfect themselves as marksmen this running deer was the best target on the ground, presenting a moveable bull's-eye of eight inches diameter at 120 yards' range, travelling at a moderate speed, and at the same time strikingly lifelike. Nevertheless, the number of bull's-eyes made was surprisingly small. During the hour of its running one evening 49 shots were fired, many of which were by accomplished sportsmen, and yet the bull's-eye was not once hit. Then, again, on another day, the firing was continued from half-past nine to half-past twelve with the same result; but then, as if by a miracle, two bull's-eyes were made successively, and, after one intervening shot, a third, among the cheers of excited onlookers. After a lapse of twenty minutes a fourth was made, and then the running deer was left another long interval of immunity from damage by rifle shot for hours. The four fortunate marksmen—for other competitors said these were mere flakes—were as follows: A. Muuro, 1st Lanark; Sergeant Sloper, 4th Dorset; J. Frey, 4th Lanark—all of whom used long Enfields; and Captain Thresher, 5th Dorset, who used a Turner rifle—the honour being equally divided between the counties of Lanark and Dorset, neither of which is particularly renowned for deer-stalking. Later in the day the bull's-eye was hit by others, among whom was Captain Ross. The mode of shooting at this description of target—of which we give an illustration—was fully described in our last number.

"THE RETURN FROM THE FARM."

It would be difficult to determine on what particular ground, save their personal appearance, many animals are accepted as representing certain moral qualifications or human sentiments; and it not unfrequently happens that a want of appreciation on the part of mankind contributes to the mistake of tacking an altogether false attribute to a member of the brute creation.

One case, however, in which there can be no doubt whatever is that of the fox, who has from time immemorial been accepted as the exponent of cunning and rapacity. The patient watching, the murring craft, and the sensitive appreciation of probable accidents with which he waits for his prey, combined with the rapidity and decision with which he seizes his victim and escapes with it to his lair, are all perfect developments of instincts which bear in their outward seeming an affinity to the action resulting from cunning and selfishness as moral attributes.

The picture from which our Engraving is taken well represents Reynard in the full triumph of success. Much patience has enabled him at last to discover the weak point of the barn-door; long waiting has been rewarded on a night when some sleepy or careless helper has left a trap unfastened; the constant exercise of every keen scent has found out the loose or missing brick—the hole stufel with straw—the broken rafters near the rough fence whence he can climb to the roof of the poultry-house. Then patience is changed for swift decision: the gosling is seized amidst the cackle and opposition of his fellows, and, with swift and noiseless strides, borne away to regale the lively and intelligent cubs, one of whom, the most promising of the brood, laps the blood as it trickles from the beak, while the others mumble at the feet until stronger teeth strip off the feathers. M. Verlat has enhanced his already high reputation by the careful finish and lifelike rendering of this picture, which is one of those rare studies in animal life where the idea of motion is well and truthfully conveyed.

OPERA AND CONCERTS.

The production of "Don Pasquale" at Her Majesty's Theatre has served to introduce once more to the public an excellent singer and very charming a tenor. We mean, of course, Madame Guerrabé, who plays the part of the harridan in the first act, and in some respects the original of Donizetti's operatic character and her grace and talent. When Madame Guerrabé made her first appearance at Her Majesty's Theatre, as Elvira in the "Puritans," she was very badly supported by the tenor. The public were disappointed by the absence of Signor Giuglini, and the débâtaire was absolutely injured by it. The non-appearance of Signor Giuglini left a vacuum which the audience astutely filled; and to have thoroughly succeeded—to have pleased every one—Madame Guerrabé would have had to sing for herself and for the missing tenor. In "Don Pasquale" Signor Giuglini takes the part of that stout gentleman's nephew, and as the lover and future husband of his poor old uncle's betrothed, justifies by his beautiful singing (apart from the question of age and fitness) the thorough preference accorded to him by the lady. There is certainly no tenor on the stage who can give such effect to the celebrated serenade as Signor Giuglini. His method and style are all that can be desired, and he possesses what no other tenor extant can boast of—a perfectly even and natural voice. We have light tenors who have quite lost the upper notes which nature gave them a good many years ago, and who, by some sort of surgical operation, extract substitutes for them out of their bronchial tubes; light tenors whose voices are not worth hearing at all; loud tenors, who merely scream at us; and admirable tenors in all respects but one, who, with all their artistic merit as vocalists and all their dramatic power and intelligence, are not able to sing quite as steadily as they did a dozen years ago. Signor Giuglini, however, when he has simply to sing (as in the serenade behind the scenes in "Don Pasquale") completely satisfies the ear. He is not the best Raoul imaginable; he would not be the best Robert if he were weak enough to undertake that part; but he certainly sings "Com' è gentil" to perfection.

"Robert le Diable" does not appear to have made any overpowering hit at either of the opera-houses. It is a magnificent work; but there are five acts of it, and in England we do not like any musical composition much longer than "The Messiah," which, with the increased speed at which some of the movements are taken by Mr. Costa, occupies very little more than three hours. "Robert le Diable" is an opera which all musicians and amateurs admire, but which the public en masse does not seem inclined to support. It has been produced over and over again in London, in Italian, in French, and in German, but has never obtained any continued success. We regret this, inasmuch as it is certainly, in many respects, M. Meyerbeer's greatest work. It is certainly the best constructed of all his operas, and it ought not to tire any one, for while the interest goes on increasing the acts grow shorter and shorter towards the end, until the last is as concise and as intensely dramatic as possible.

As regards execution, it is difficult just now to imagine any better than that which "Robert le Diable" obtains at the Royal Italian Opera. It would be unreasonable to expect a manager to engage a sufficient number of singers to enable him to produce Italian, German, and French operas with equal success, and with all parts in all operas equally well filled; but in any case it would be impossible in the present day to find a better Robert than Signor Tamberlik, or a better Bertram than Herr Formes.

The performance of "Robert le Diable" at Her Majesty's Theatre is chiefly remarkable for the energetic manner in which Mademoiselle Titien sings and acts the part of Alice, which is, nevertheless (or rather for that very reason), one of her least successful impersonations. Mademoiselle Titien's comparative failure in the part of Alice may be compared and contrasted with that of Jenny Lind in the part of Norma. What may be called "robust" sopranos and light sentimental sopranos have now such distinct classes of characters assigned to them that it is almost impossible for the habitual representative of one set of parts to enact the other with any chance of success.

The novelty of the day at the ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA is Verdi's "Ballo in Maschera," which has just been revived, or rather reproduced; for if "revival" is the proper sense of the word it was not yet in need.

The most interesting concert of the season is always Mr. Benedict's. Mr. Howard Glover's concert brought together all the most distinguished solo singers and many of the best instrumentalists of the day. The concert given by Messrs. Boosey a few weeks since at Exeter Hall enabled us to hear for the first time, at one performance, the whole of the music written for the opening of the International Exhibition. Mr. Benedict, however, seems to have been determined to surpass both these entertainments; and, "to form a third, he joined the other two." Accordingly, last Monday, at St. James's Hall, not only was all the exhibition music performed (including, of course, the admirable rejected cantata by Verdi), but Mr. Benedict had moreover collected a host of celebrated vocalists and illustrious virtuosi, any one of whom might have been advertised as "a great attraction" at an ordinary concert, and who on this occasion kept the audience in a state of continued delight during one of the longest afternoons ever devoted to music. Some of the most successful pieces in the concert were those selected from Mr. Benedict's opera; and no instrumental performances were more applauded than those given by Mr. Benedict on the pianoforte.

The music of Verdi's last opera (which, indeed, has not yet been presented to the public, but which is expected next autumn by the audience of the Italian Opera of St. Petersburg) is announced in London as "nearly ready."

A new opera by Signor Schira, the well-known musical conductor and singing-master, has been for some weeks underlined at Her Majesty's Theatre, and is now on the point of being produced.

ELECTION OF CORONER FOR CENTRAL MIDDLESEX.—The polling took place on Monday, and hourly returns were made by the committees of the two candidates, which differed very much from the first hour to the close, both parties claiming to be at the head of the poll. At the close, at four o'clock, Dr. Lankester's committee made the following return:—Lankester, 1172; Lewis, 1074; majority, 98. Mr. Lewis's committee did not put forth any return for the last two hours, but contented themselves with denying the correctness of that of Dr. Lankester. The official declaration gives a majority to Dr. Lankester of 47.

THE BARON DE VIDIL.—The Baron de Vidil, who was charged with the attempted murder of his son, and subsequently, being convicted of a common assault only, was sentenced to twelve months' hard labour, will be discharged from the Middlesex House of Correction in the course of a few days, the period of his imprisonment having expired. The Baron's health appears somewhat impaired by his lengthened incarceration; his age has exempted him from the labour of the treadwheel, and he has been chiefly employed in matmaking.

GUNPOWDER SUPERSEDED.—A contemporary writes:—"The Germans have a proverb according to which people of limited talent are put down as not having invented gunpowder, or, in plain English, as not being likely to set the Thames on fire. If the saying implies that the invention of that destructive material must be the work of genius, they may now boast of having produced the fourth of the kind. Apart from the ancient discovery of Berthold Schwarz, and the more novel invention of gun-cotton by Professor Schönbein, the fact has just been repeated in another way by two officers in the Prussian and Austrian service. Of these Hauptmann Schmidt, a Captain of artillery at Berlin, is the original discoverer, whose idea was subsequently imitated and improved by Colonel Von Uchatius. The latest explosive material consists of the flour of starch, which, boiled in a peculiar way with nitric acid, possesses a far greater projective force than the gunpowder in ordinary use. It also has the great advantage of not fouling the piece to any appreciable extent, and, from the nature of the materials used, is produced at a far cheaper rate. Another point in its composition, which recommends it especially for fortresses and magazines, is the facility with which the ingredients are mixed together, thus rendering it possible to keep them separate until wanted for actual use. In this state the powder is non-explosive. The experiments now in course of progress in Vienna and Berlin are said to leave little doubt as to its general adoption in the Austrian and Prussian armies."

NEW NAUTICAL INSTRUMENT.—Commander Hay, R.N., examiner to the Royal Mail Company at Southampton, has just invented a nautical pocket instrument, which is called a compound-protractor. It determines by chart the course to be steered from one position to another in a moment of time. Angular distances of objects, either horizontal or vertical, can be taken by it with equal facility. It readily affords the means of obtaining the sun's azimuth, amplitude, and magnetic bearings, and it is capable of fixing the exact position of a ship, shoal, or the place of the observer.

STRIKE OF THE IRON SHIPBUILDERS AT CHATHAM DOCKYARD.

The introduction of iron vessels into the Royal and mercantile navies of Great Britain has, as is well known, created much diversity of opinion and ideas among our legislators, members of naval boards, and naval men in general. This improvement, as some insist it is, and others improve it, has, however, caused serious disputes in a lower class of society, and has unfortunately created a strong feeling of active antagonism between the members of two of the most powerful trade societies in the kingdom, viz., the Iron Boiler-makers (or iron ship-builders) and the shipwrights (or wooden ship-builders). This feeling has been brought into existence by the employment, in one or two private shipbuilding yards on the Thames and in some of her Majesty's dockyards, of the shipwrights, or wooden men, as they are termed, in building iron vessels, which is regarded as an infringement upon the rights of their trade, and is resisted in the first instance in a strike, which has now been some months in existence, at the yard of Messrs. Wigman, Blackwall; in another just commenced at Chatham dockyard; and in others threatened at Portsmouth, Sheerness, and other Royal docks.

The trade has been for many years conducted in this manner: the hull-makers, as iron ship-builders, doing the work under their own foremen; while the foreman shipwright, or wooden man, has given the rules, holding the same relative position to a ship as the architect to a house. Recently, however, owing to a temporary slackness experienced by the shipwrights, employed in Messrs. Wigman's yard, and labouring under the impression that the great demand for iron-built vessels would deprive them of their accustomed employment, these men applied to be allowed to work upon an iron vessel about to be commenced, and were refused to work with the iron men, who remained working against it as an innovation on their trade. Finding the wooden men were kept at work, the iron men appealed to the Committee of the Shipwrights' Trade Society as to whether they sanctioned this proceeding of their members, and, in reply, were informed that the shipwrights' committee did not object to their members thus working. The whole fact of the case having been submitted to the Iron Ship-builders' Society, it was resolved that their members working at Messrs. Wigman's should leave there employ unless the wooden men were withdrawn from the vessel. This not having been done, the iron men accordingly left the yard. Hence the commencement of a dispute which now threatens to assume a formidable character.

A few weeks since the authorities of Chatham dockyard advertised for iron platers, angleiron smiths, and riveters for building a 50-gun vessel, the Acadie, stating that none but men of the highest testimonials as to efficiency would be employed, and that every man before engagement would have to undergo a practical test as to his fitness for his work. Upon these terms a number of men were engaged, and set to work upon the vessel, with which they proceeded satisfactorily until a few days since, when, to their great surprise, a body of shipwrights, or wooden men, were also placed upon the ironwork of the vessel, not one of whom had undergone any practical test as to fitness. The iron men, considering this a breach of faith on the part of the dockyard authorities, on Thursday week sent a deputation to Captain Fanshawe, the superintendent, and Mr. Ling, the master shipwright, to remonstrate with them upon the subject. These gentlemen, however, declined to withdraw the shipwrights, and the iron men, at meeting held on the same evening, determined to leave the vessel, under no circumstances to return to it while the shipwrights were kept upon it. On Friday determination being made known to Captain Fanshawe, he at once communicated the facts to the Board of Admiralty, who, in reply, ordered the iron men to be paid off and discharged. When, therefore, these men attended the yard on Friday week to receive their pay, they were informed of this decision, and were also told they would not be allowed to work in the yard any more. One hundred additional shipwrights were placed upon the vessel on Saturday last.

It is much to be feared that this is only the forerunner of what will prove a very obstinate and protracted strike, inasmuch as the same proceedings are threatened at Portsmouth, Sheerness, and other Royal docks, where shipwrights have lately been put to work upon iron vessels.

THIRTY-SIX YEARS A PRISONER.

The Irish papers announce the death of a person named Sterne who had been imprisoned for debt in the Four Courts Marshal for thirty-six years. Mr. Sterne was a gentleman of large fortune, who, in consequence of some interest he had with Government, obtained an official position in it, it is understood, the Commissariat. He was a gentleman of fashion as well as a "fast" man upon town. In early life he had married and had two children. The most remarkable event of his life was his elopement with a married lady of great respectability, the wife of an eminent barrister. This lady—who was young, pretty, and well connected—formed a fatal attachment to Mr. Sterne, and yielded in an unhappy moment to his solicitations to elope with him. The matter was arranged at a ball given by the husband, at which Mr. Sterne was present as a guest. About two o'clock in the morning, while the festivities were at their height, the lady hastily put on her bonnet and shawl and proceeded down stairs unnoticed. Mr. Sterne was awaiting her in a carriage. The news of the elopement, the circumstances under which it took place, and the rank of the persons created a great deal of interest in the city at the time. The injured husband instituted legal proceedings for damages, and the case came on for trial before Lord Norbury and a special jury. It subsequently transpired that, after inducing the unhappy lady to leave her husband and her home, he within a short time ruthlessly abandoned her and turned her out of doors.

About the year 1824 he was arrested on account of a debt of £300, and was committed to the Four Courts Marshal. Bereft of resources, and discarded by all his connections, it was impossible for him to procure the means to satisfy all his creditors. He was, however, allowed a sum of 10s. a week for several years by an eminent Judge who pitied his situation. Mr. Sterne, or, as he was called in the prison, "General" Sterne, was in the latter part of his life morose and reserved. It was exceedingly difficult to obtain from him any information regarding the events of his former life. He seldom混 with any of the other prisoners, remaining almost entirely in his own room.

The law now provides two modes by which a prisoner confined in the Marshalsea might, under the circumstances in which Mr. Sterne was placed, obtain his release—either by filing the petition in the Insolvent Court, or by signing a pauper declaration, under either of which, as his creditors were all dead, he would have obtained his discharge as a matter of course. Mr. Sterne, however, having neither friends nor acquaintances, and having little more than sufficient to supply him with the common necessities of life, did not choose to avail himself of the opportunity which the law afforded him of obtaining his release, and he accordingly remained in prison for a period of thirty-six years.

FRANCE AND ROME.—A communication from Rome, of the 28th ult., has the following:—"General de Montebello, immediately after his arrival, issued an order of the day announcing that he was determined to repress with energy every kind of disorder. When presented by the Marquis de Lafayette to the Pope the General remained with his Holiness for more than an hour, and immediately afterwards had an interview with Cardinal Antonelli. It is said that on that occasion the Marquis said to the Cardinal, 'Just reflect; think that Austria is in accord with France to propose to the Pope a territorial guarantee and an annual income. Austria, in fact, was in a measure forced to that course by the vote of the Chambers in favour of an arrangement by diplomatic means respecting Italy. Without doubt, you have with you the Bishops and Catholicism, morally considered, but you must perceive by the attitude of Austria that you are urged to an arrangement by political Catholicism. Trust me, that what you have best to do is to accept the offer now made you.' To such representations the Cardinal simply answered 'No.' As to the Holy Father, there was laid before him the argument drawn from the attitude of Austria, and he is said to have replied, with a smile, 'No one, then, knows that if Austria, Bavaria, and Spain were to fail me, I should not change one iota of my rule of conduct.' The world certainly must be ignorant of what a Pope is." The Marquis de Lafayette invoked to the Cardinal the example of the concessions of Pius VI, and the treaty of Tolentino. The Cardinal replied, "Those times are changed; the Holy See, as a temporal power, makes experiments like all the world; neither his Holiness, nor I, nor the Bonaparte of the Directory, were he at Sinigaglia, would sign that treaty." Any one should hear Antonelli make those remarks with a positiveness and energy alike remarkable."

DINNER TO FOREIGN ARTISTS.—It has been determined by a distinguished body of English painters to show their respect to their foreign brethren in the person of one of the most eminent of them, M. Gallait—the painter of the "Egmont and Horn," and other pictures, which have attracted such admiration in the Belgian Gallery at the International Exhibition—by inviting that gentleman, and, it is presumed, any other Continental painter of high reputation who may be in England at the time, to a public dinner, to be given at Willis's Room on Monday, the 14th of July. Sir C. Eastlake, Meers, Stanfield, Roberts, Hart, Frit, and Faed have formed themselves into a committee for this commendable purpose. There is an additional motive for this offer of hospitable recognition by English artists to M. Gallait in the cordial and honourable reception given by the Academy of Belgium to the English painters who visited the great picture exhibition at Antwerp last year.

LONDON STATUES.—A return of the London statues belonging to the nation contains the names of six Sovereigns—Charles I., at Charing-cross; James II., in Whitehall-gardens; Queen Anne, in the two Queen-squares; George II., in Golden-square; George III., in Pall-mall east and at Somerset House; and George IV., in Trafalgar-square. The Duke of Kent is in Portland-place. Of warriors, there are Richard Cœur-de-Lion, in Old Palace-yard; Lord Nelson, in Trafalgar-square; Achilles in Hyde Park; and Major-Havelock, in Trafalgar-square. Achiles in Hyde Park; Canning in New Palace-yard; and Dr. Jenner, in Kensington-gardens, complete the list, unless we were to reckon the statues in the New Palace at Westminster. This list, of course, does not include statues which are not strictly national property.

EXETER HALL.—A GRAND EVENING CONCERT will be given in the above Hall, on WEDNESDAY EVENING, JULY 16, 1862, AND THE FUNDS OF THE METROPOLITAN FREE DRINKING FOUNTAIN ASSOCIATION. The Committee have the pleasure to announce that they have secured the services of the following eminent artists:—Madame Titiens and Madlle. Florence Lancia, Miss Jessie McLean and Madlle. Vestavall; Mr. Sims Reeves and Mr. Santley, Mr. Tennant and Herr Formes. Pianoforte, M. Ascher. The Band and Chorus will number upwards of five hundred performers. Conductor, Mr. Benedict. Accompanist, Mr. Aguilar. The first part of the Concert will be "Miscellanea"; and the second Recital's "Stabat Mater" will be given. To commence at Eight o'clock. Seats, 2s. 6d.; Reserved Seats, 1s. 6d.; Aps., 5s. may be obtained at the Secretary of the Association, 11, Waterloo-places.

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